



M E R U S

## 2014 MERUS CABERNET SAUVIGNON

N A P A V A L L E Y

Merus is handmade in every sense of the word. It is composed primarily of Cabernet Sauvignon from the Coombsville Viticultural Appellation in the Southeastern corner of the Napa Valley. The individual vineyards selected for Merus are owned by a handful of serious growers who possess extraordinary terroirs and a willingness to implement our strict farming and harvesting protocols. Severe pruning, cluster sorting, small-lot fermentations and careful lot selection combine to create a wine that is dense, concentrated and nuanced.

### VINEYARDS

The bulk of Merus comes from a single well-chosen Cabernet Sauvignon vineyard site in the Coombsville A.V.A of the Napa Valley. This is one of the coolest sites in the Napa Valley which allows the vines to remain viable and active into November. What it also has going for it under challenging conditions is very well-draining soil (volcanic strewn with river cobble), early morning sunshine due to the gentle eastern aspect, and daily afternoon breezes.

### WINEMAKERS NOTES

The 2014 Merus is a singularly delicious bottle of wine, hailing from a vintage that brought out the absolute best of the Napa Valley. The wines from 2014 are powerful yet graceful, and no place epitomizes this balance better than the Coombsville AVA. Rather than crushing and fermenting at 95+ degrees with commercial yeast strains to maximize extraction, Merus is fermented with primarily whole berries at 75 degrees using 100% indigenous yeast. Cooler whole berry fermentations retain more esters specific to the variety and vineyard and allow the yeast to remain viable to absolute dryness. This 2014 bottling boasts deep, dark fruit aromas. A hint of something cool and distant, akin to marine air, opens up to reveal classic black currant and berry syrup aromas. The aromas carry through onto the silky and rich palate, which fills every corner of your mouth. The tannin, acid, and alcohol are in such balance that wine feels sweet, though it is bone dry. The 100% new oak provides structure and subtle vanilla hints on the finish. Decant for at least one hour in advance for maximum enjoyment.

**95% CABERNET SAUVIGNON (COOMBSVILLE),  
5% PETIT VERDOT (YOUNTVILLE)**

**100% NEW FRENCH OAK**

**25 MONTHS IN BARREL**

**15.1% ALCOHOL**

**971 750 ml CASES PRODUCED; 50 1.5 liter CASES PRODUCED**

