



Girard

2016 ARTISTRY NAPA VALLEY

WINEMAKING NOTES

The 2016 vintage for Napa Valley remained on track with previous years in terms of smaller yields of slightly smaller clusters. The quality of the lower yields remained high, in spite of early concerns about the few heat spikes during early summer months. Fortunately, cooler August temperatures slowed ripening to a luxurious pace which allowed us to harvest each parcel at optimal ripeness. Fermentation temperatures were kept deliberately low to retain fresh fruit flavors and color extraction. Carefully selected French oak barrels rounded out the élevage (or barrel aging) process, ensuring a wine rich character and complexity.

VINEYARD NOTES

We source Cabernet Sauvignon for this blend from St. Helena, Oakville, Diamond Mountain and Pope Valley for their ability to offer rich and supple fruit flavors with well-integrated tannins. Merlot from Yountville and Rutherford lend lush fruit components while our primary sources for Cabernet Franc and Petit Verdot from Pope Valley allow for longer hang time. Our Petit Verdot tends to be our last fruit brought in, allowing for complex character and tannin development while the Yountville Malbec adds mid-palate weight and juiciness. The artful blend of grapes come from both hillside and valley floor vineyards, providing rich texture, balance and integrated tannins. Every year, this blend is perfected to showcase the very best of each year's harvest.

TASTING NOTES

Our 2016 Artistry showcases the beauty and elegance of blending varieties and regions into one unified expression. The nose reveals black cherry, cassia and bramble aromas with savory hints of cigar box and dried herbs. The palate is endowed with blueberry, brioche, vanilla bean and nutmeg flavors. The finish is lengthy and gilded with integrated scents of oak and spice.

ABOUT THIS WINE

For over four decades Girard has produced a “red wine” blend from our best barrel lots. In 2003 we found a fitting name for this blend that promotes the artistic side of winemaking. It is in the blending process that we feel “Artistry” finds its best representation.

VARIETAL COMPOSITION 56% Cabernet Sauvignon, 14% Merlot, 13% Petit Verdot, 10% Cabernet Franc, 7% Malbec

APPELLATION Napa Valley | **OAK AGING** 20 months in French oak, 35% New

ALCOHOL 14.9% | **PH** 3.6 | **TA** .68 g/100ml | **RESIDUAL SUGAR** 1.78 g/L | **PRODUCTION** 1,000 cases