



# CORNERSTONE

CELLARS • NAPA VALLEY

## **2014 Merlot Oakville Station**

### **2014 Vintage**

You could sum up the 2014 vintage in Napa Valley in just a few words: unusually early and excellent. Drought conditions in California contributed to the long growing season with mild spring and summer weather leading to an early harvest. For many of us, harvest started two weeks ahead of normal. The crop size was somewhat smaller than the abundant 2013 vintage, but still very generous. We didn't see any extreme temperatures during the hotter months, which allowed us to pick at optimum ripeness, with intense aromatics and great fruit character. The grapes were happily fermenting in the winery long before the potentially damaging, yet much-needed fall rains arrived.

### **The Vineyard**

This tiny block of Merlot was planted in 1990 in the highly acclaimed UC Davis Oakville Station, in the center of "Cabernet Country". Located on the west side of the valley at the base of the Mayacamas Mountains, this vineyard takes its cue from its illustrious neighbors.

### **2014 Tasting Notes**

Big, ripe, juicy blackberries and late summer cherry aromas. Soft and lush on entry, the medium-plus body is luscious with a juicy cherry core, wrapped in a thin layer of sweet vanilla. Bright cherry with uplifted fruit lingers with a hint chocolate on the velvety finish. Ready to go now, but built for a little time in the cellar.

### **2014 Winemaking Notes**

Vintage:	2014
Appellation:	100% Oakville
Vineyard:	100% Oakville Station
Varietals:	100% Merlot
Alcohol:	14.6%
Cooperage:	50% New French oak Barrels, 50% neutral oak
Production:	50 Cases
Retail:	\$00