



RED MARE WINES

2014 . Red Mare Wines . Napa Valley . La Vaquera

The 2014 La Vaquera is an invitation to celebrate what we can do in California with big berried varietals. From start to finish, this wine is a study of dark inky purple and deep ripe fruit. Inviting brambly aromas of ripe blackberry, dark chocolate, licorice, and cracked pepper give way to ripe, jammy black fruit compote, and a richly textured palate with heft and volume. Once in the mouth, the mid-palate is punctuated by fine talc and opens nicely to a counterpoint of delicate powdery florals lifting ripe black plum, vanilla, and white tobacco to a pepper and creamy espresso laced finish. This is an energetic, flavorful, and robust wine.

2014 Vintage Notes:

2014 was the driest year on record in California history, and it is a stunner. Bookended by a God sent early spring rain and a 6.0 Earthquake, 2014 was a reminder to count our blessings. While dry, temperatures were relatively mild, not breaking 100F the entire season. This easy-going growing season allowed us to find the 'just right' window of physiological maturity and peak flavors to harvest our vineyards with conditions for ripening, maturation of tannins, and concentration of flavors.

Vineyard & Winemaking Notes:

When a bit of our Malbec, Petite Syrah, and Petit Verdot were left over after blending the Cabernet Sauvignon, we experimented by tossing them all together, creating a rich, inky and powerful “mountain” blend. It was so distinct and so delicious, that we decided to bottle it.

La Vaquera is “the cowgirl” in Spanish, and this wine is our little cowgirl. She isn’t following any rules. An untraditional blend and a bold character, this wine is always pushing the limits. The flavors and spiced texture are excellent when paired with the flavorful smoked meats or wild game. This wine hails mainly from the Swickard Vineyard in the northern reaches of the warm Calistoga AVA. Appropriately, it is owned by the founders of Five Dot Ranch, the well-regarded organic meat producer, and purveyor.

Production: 226 cases
TA: 6.07 g/L
pH: 3.80
Alc: 15.2%
100% French Oak
20% New Oak

Vineyard & Appellation Breakdown:
Swickard Vineyard ~ Petite Sirah
Bennet Lane Vineyard ~ Petit Verdot
Farella Vineyard ~ Malbec