



RED MARE WINES

2014 . Alpha Mare Red . Napa Valley

This is an intensely rich, complex and elegant wine. From fruit notes of juicy raspberry, sappy fresh blueberries and hints of candied violets to the warm notes of beeswax, honey, creamy milk chocolate, toffee and nougat this wine rewards the taster more and more with each examination. Layered in the mouth with ripe sweet tannins and weighty palate presence, is a lovely balanced texture and a graceful pause mid-palate. Its precise flavors are well matched to the promise from the nose along with cherry pie filling, cardamom, well-knit oak and a lengthy generous and lush finish.

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 perfect conditions for ripening, maturation of tannins, and concentration of flavors.

Vineyard & Winemaking Notes:

Alpha Mare is the leader of the herd. This wine is Anne's carte blanche and represents the best of her craft and experience in winemaking. The Cabernet Sauvignon base for our Alpha Mare Red hails from the Blossom Creek Vineyard in the Calistoga Appellation. With a sloping aspect providing consistent airflow and a slight northern exposure, this site is protected from extreme heat and produces exceptional quality grapes.

Barrel fermentation in small 225L oak barrels results in slower, cooler fermentation. The shape and size of the barrel produces a submerged cap. Gentle and consistent, this method of extraction gives mouth-filling, lush, and broad tannic structure. The use of native yeast adds to the complexity, and a co-fermentation of Cabernet Sauvignon with Malbec creates a round, vibrant, and pleasing wine with intense color and depth.

Production: 135 cases

TA: 5.1 g/L

pH: 3.95

Alc: 15.8%

100% French Oak

85% New Oak

45% Barrel Fermented

Vineyard or Appellation Breakdown:

97% Blossom Creek ~ Calistoga ~ Cabernet Sauvignon

2% Farella Vineyard ~ Coombsville ~ Malbec

1% Bennet Lane Vineyard ~ Calistoga ~ Petit Verdot