



2014 HL Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon

Winemaking Notes:

Our first vintage of the HL Reserve bottling, this wine is from the best rows of the middle, or sweet spot, of the vineyard that receives more light and ripens earlier and more completely than the rest of the Herb Lamb Vineyard. But we weigh precise crop levels and grow the grapes in this section for the purpose of making the best wines. In 2014, we also experimented with barrel fermenting the Cabernet, the addition of which give the wine more depth and richness.

The 2014 HL Reserve is complex in the nose, with pencil lead and black tea followed by the signature nose from this vineyard - a lovely spice showing a combination of raspberry, licorice, violets and black berry highlighted by cocoa dust from 100% new Taransaud barrels.

On the entry the Reserve is velvety and more similar to a fine Bordeaux wine with both a spiciness and density. Winemaker Michael Trujillo says "This wine reminds me of the early Herb Lamb Vineyards wines from the 1980's, rich and broad in the nose and solid". It is plusher than the 2014 HL with a bigger loft and dusty tannins. From the extended maceration in the barrels, the more time on skins gives this wine a softer flavor with more texture. But the flavors are layered; not bigger and lush by being overly powerful, but by true expression of the vineyard and complex by design.

The wine is not fined, and only lightly, polish filtered, giving it a denser feel in the mouth. Although still youthful, it gets bigger and bigger in the glass, and will provide decades of enjoyment as the flavors integrate more fully. The lingering finish of cocoa and fruit, with a good acid balance make this wine definitely a cellar selection that will reward the recipient with a few more years of ageing.

Technical Data:

Alcohol: 14.4

Barrels: 100% new French oak

Appellation: Napa Valley

Case production: 50

Vineyard: Herb Lamb Vineyard

Suggested retail price: \$225.00