

2013 Stornoway

NAPA VALLEY ESTATE GROWN

87.5% Merlot, 12.5% Cabernet Franc

RELEASE DATE: April 2016

BRIX AT HARVEST: 26.8

CASES PRODUCED: 493

ALCOHOL: 15.1%

TOTAL ACID: 6.3 g/l pH: 3.74

Appellation/Vineyards

Somerston wines are selected from single blocks of our 1615 acre estate, high in the eastern hills of Napa Valley. This estate bottled wine was sourced from our most expressive Merlot vineyard, Stornoway Block 4. This vineyard has an average elevation of 1,150 feet above sea level and is grown on loam soils.

Winemaking

The Merlot was hand picked and delivered to the winery. The grapes were de-stemmed and sorted, then pumped into tanks for a 5 day cold soak at 50 degrees. When the fermentation began, we pumped the tank over twice per day. The native yeast fermentation lasted for approximately 14 days. The free run was drained from the tank overnight. The wine was barreled down into 55% new French oak; the balance was put into once used French oak barrels. Malolactic fermentation occurred naturally in the barrel. The wine was aged for 24 months and bottled unfiltered.

Tasting Notes

“The 2013 Merlot Stornoway is a blend of nearly 88% Merlot and the rest Cabernet Franc. It is a beautiful wine, offering oodles of lush mocha and chocolate notes, black cherry and berry fruit, full-bodied opulence, a voluptuous palate, and a fleshy, savory mouth feel. Talk about hedonism – this wine is loaded with it. It should drink well for at least a decade or more. This is a real crowd pleaser and I’m sure it would acquit itself extremely well in blind tastings with wines two to three times the price.”

– **93 PTS** ROBERT PARKER, OCTOBER 2015 | EROBERTPARKER.COM