



TRINITAS  
CELLARS

## 2013 ESTATE MERITAGE

### NAPA, CALIFORNIA

*The 2013 Trinitas Estate Meritage is one that is near and dear to our hearts. Yes we love this wine because it is our only estate wine, but this particular vintage is special to us too... and to the man upstairs. Trinitas was hit hard by the major earthquake in Napa in August of 2014 and we lost many barrels of our best wines. Amazingly this was the only stack of barrels in the entire winery which did not fall over and the only wine which we did not lose a single ounce of. This also was the first wine Garrett and Kevin screened after the quake, and it was one of the best tasting wines for many reasons...it still lives up to that today.*

#### Tasting Notes

This wine opens with high notes of cherry on the nose; the cinnamon, plum, cedar, chocolate, and clove all have strong supporting roles to please your olfactory and welcome you to this exquisite wine. Choco-late covered cherries and coffee beans light up your taste buds and the tannins finish with the consistency of a fine cocoa powder. This vintage represents Trinitas' Estate vineyard in its 8th leaf and by far is the most impressive showing yet from this vineyard...key word yet! We recommend pairing this with a coffee encrusted USDA Prime Filet with a square of peppercorn butter to melt on top.

#### Winemaking

The Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc lots were co-fermented while the Merlot, Malbec, and Petit Verdot were separated into another lot. The two lots went through a 5 day cold soak and 30 day extended maceration to maximize color and tannin extraction. The wine was barreled down in two lots to 100% French oak barrels, with 75% of it being new oak.

#### Vintage Notes

A warm, dry spring brought early bud break, helped with canopy vigor and berry size and created ideal conditions for flowering and fruit set under sunny skies. Temperatures were consistently in the zone for optimal vine activity, resulting in notably healthy vines as fruit went through veraison and started ripening. The cooler, sunny weather throughout October allowed the final grapes still on the vine to linger longer, developing more phenolic and flavor maturities with sugar levels remaining steady. This vintage allowed vintners to pick exactly what they wanted, when they wanted, at perfect ripeness and ideal hang time. Winemakers from around the valley agree the 2013 vintage holds exceptional promise and potential and exceeded expectations following on the heels of 2012 – another year that has been described as “nearly perfect.”

