



2014 TAPLIN TERRA 9 CABERNET SAUVIGNON

Our Estate wines come from land held by our family for over 150 years.

COMPOSITION	100% Cabernet Sauvignon
AGING	22 months in French oak barrels, 60% new
RELEASE DATE	April 2018
ALCOHOL	14.2%
Estate bottled	

VINTAGE: The 2013/2014 winter was very dry and rainfall totals in the Napa Valley were approximately half of normal. Nonetheless, heavy rains in late February and early March gave a much-needed drink of water to the vines as they were emerging from dormancy and about to begin bud break. The spring was warm and we used our water for the right amount of irrigation needed by our 10-15 year old vines. A benefit of the drought is that berry sizes were smaller with more concentrated flavors.

WINEMAKING: We hand pick and sort the fruit. The grapes are fermented using very traditional Bordeaux methods: cold maceration and aerated pumpovers, until the sugars are converted to alcohol and an optimal amount of taste is extracted from the berry skins. Wines go through the conversion of malic acid into a softer lactic acid (malolactic fermentation) in small barrels made with 100% French oak. After bottling, the wine is cellared for 18 months before release to allow further softening of the tannins and the expression of the character of our vineyards.

TASTING NOTES: The 2014 growing season was our third dream vintage in a row, despite the 6.0 earthquake that hit Napa Valley in August. Drought conditions with steady summer temperatures brought the fruit to early maturity with exceptional aromatics. Rich notes of raspberries and blueberry compote open into lush boysenberry and ripe red fruits, shadowed with savory coffee, cocoa nib and dried mint flavors. Smooth and densely fruited, the wine also shows a graceful acidity that carries the aromatics through an enduring finish.