

FROG'S LEAP

2013 CABERNET SAUVIGNON Estate Grown Rutherford Napa Valley

THE BLEND

89% Cabernet sauvignon8% Cabernet franc3% Merlot

RELEASE DATE

September 2015

STATISTICS

harvested — September 1 – October 9
24.4° brix at harvest
13.8% alcohol
5.9 g/L total acidity
3.66 pH
aged 20 months in French oak

WINEMAKERS John Williams Paula Moschetti

VINEYARDIST Frank Leeds

A BRIEF HISTORY

For decades, it has been our goal to produce a Rutherford AVA, estate-grown Cabernet Sauvignon. Inspired by the early Cabernets of Inglenook and Beaulieu Vineyard, we've spent the past 20 years finding, farming and obtaining highly sought after land in Rutherford—with particular attention to the Rutherford Bench—to pursue our dream and perfect our craft.

It all began with the acquisition of the Red Barn Vineyard in 1994. This prime real estate provided us with 40 acres of soil perfectly suited to grow Merlot and Cabernet sauvignon and a century-old facility in which we would become Rutherford Cabernet Sauvignon producers for the first time. Immediately following our move to Rutherford, Frank Leeds—longtime Frog's Leap Vineyardist—agreed to a partnership between Frog's Leap and his family's Chavez Leeds Vineyard. This generational vineyard situated on the iconic Rutherford Bench gave us our first real taste of how complex and connected dry-farmed, organically-grown Cabernet Sauvignon from this storied part of the appellation could be.

Finally, in 2007, we purchased the historic Rossi Vineyard located in the very heart of the Rutherford Bench. This 50 acre vineyard was purchased by the Rossi family in 1906 and is located only a stone's throw away from the two vineyards that originally inspired us. Now mostly planted to Cabernet sauvignon and Cabernet franc the Rossi Vineyard completed the picture by yielding high quality Rutherford grapes for an all estate-grown Cabernet Sauvignon to stand with our predecessors.

ABOUT THE WINE

Being blessed with a highly successful inaugural release of our 2012 Estate Grown Cabernet Sauvignon, we asked ourselves: Could we repeat with a wine as distinctly flavored and as subtly nuanced? Could we make it distinctly say 'Rutherford?' As we tasted the barrels after each successive racking, our hearts lifted: the 2013 was going to surpass the 2012 in most every way!

Classic in tradition of Rutherford Cabernets, this wine superbly reflects the distinct blackberry, cassis aromas of Cabernet Sauvignon layered with the dusty, earth aromas of Rutherford. The plush mouthfeel and velvety tannins are balanced by bright acidity. Brilliantly structured, this is a wine for the ages with decades of drinking pleasure. If you are tempted to open now, allow the wine to open a bit and it will surely delight. If patience allows, 7-10 years in the cellar and you will feel so much more rewarded. Personally I will be searching for some morel mushrooms to sauce alongside a braised loin of pork to pair with this beauty...perhaps I'd better open a magnum!