

2012 Stornoway

NAPA VALLEY ESTATE GROWN

85% Merlot, 10% Cabernet Franc,
5% Petite Verdot

RELEASE DATE: April 2015

BRIX AT HARVEST: 26.8

CASES PRODUCED: 318

ALCOHOL: 15.1%

TOTAL ACID: 5.9 g/l pH: 3.82

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.

Winemaking

The Merlot, Cabernet Franc and Petite Verdot were hand picked and delivered to the winery. The grapes were destemmed 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 14 days. The free run was drained from the tank overnight. The wine was barreled down into 65% 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 2012 Somerston Stornoway is our fourth release. Each vintage seems to top the previous one. This right bank inspired wine jumps out of the glass with expressive aromatics of blueberry, espresso, and oak spice. The wine is rich and concentrated, yet balanced and elegant. The palate is focused with dark red fruits, spice and blueberry. The balanced acid profile builds up to a firm and somewhat reluctant finish that will age and develop over the next 20 years.