



FLORA SPRINGS



2014 THREE KEYS WINEMAKER NOTES

Nat Komes' grandfather, Jerry Komes, always said there were three keys to living life to the fullest. What the three keys were, however, he'd never say, no matter how much his eight grandchildren tried to coax it out of him. Was it "Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness," "Love, Kindness and a Sense of Humor?" Though he never passed on the secret, Nat pays tribute to him with this Rutherford-sourced wine, an expressive (unlike Jerry) Cabernet Sauvignon with sumptuous fruit flavors of black currant, blackberry, and blueberry and warm notes of allspice, sassafras and vanilla. With just enough acid to keep it lively on the palate, the wine reveals hints of cedar and dark licorice on a lasting finish lengthened by smooth, silky tannins.

ALL THE FACTS

Appellation:	<i>Napa Valley</i>
Varietal:	<i>80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 10% Malbec, 10% Cabernet Franc</i>
Cases Produced:	<i>296</i>
Aging:	<i>20 months in 100% French oak barrels</i>
Suggested Retail Price:	<i>\$70</i>
Enjoyability:	<i>Drink now through 2030 for optimum enjoyment.</i>

ON THE VINE

In spite of a year that saw the continuation of California's drought in Napa Valley, vintners in the region celebrated another vintage for the record books in 2014. Heavy rains in late February and early March gave a much-needed drink of water to vines as they emerged from dormancy, and a warm, relatively frost-free spring allowed bud break, flowering and fruit set to proceed without interruption. Continued warm, dry weather throughout the summer brought the grapes to perfect ripeness in a harvest that was relatively early and also bountiful. 2014 was the third great vintage year in a row for Napa Valley, with vintners using phrases such as "excellent quality," "depth of flavor" and "exciting concentration" to describe the forthcoming wines.