

FLORA SPRINGS

NAPA VALLEY

RUTHERFORD AVA, NAPA VALLEY

Windfall Vineyard

THE VINEYARD

Our Windfall Vineyard sits at the intersection of Bella Oaks Lane and Highway 29 in the Rutherford AVA of Napa Valley. Owned by the Komes family since 1986, this precious site hosts just 2.2 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon and 1.9 acres of Merlot on sustainably-farmed bale loam soils. The vines are tightly spaced, creating competition for nutrients and lowering their overall production.

Windfall is a flat site consisting of two blocks further divided into sub-blocks which are irrigated and farmed individually. In the early 2020s drain tiles and perforated pipes were installed beneath the soil to encourage excellent drainage. The vineyard is a landmark on Highway 29, fronting a salmon-pink, late-1800s Victorian homestead that John Komes moved from the berg of Rutherford to its current location. Our winemaker, Enrico Bertoz, lived in this house with his family for seven years before moving to Napa. Coyotes and jack rabbits were regular visitors.

YEAR PLANTED: 1986

SOILS: Bale Loam and Bale Clay Loam

CLONE: Cabernet Sauvignon Clone 4; Merlot Clone 15

WINES: Trilogy, Merlot

RUTHERFORD AVA

Although the Rutherford AVA encompasses just six square miles, it has a worldwide reputation as one of Napa Valley's finest growing regions. The appellation has that rare and serendipitous combination of climate, soils and topography ideal for growing high quality wine grapes, particularly Cabernet Sauvignon.

Established in 1993, the Rutherford AVA sits in the heart of Napa Valley, located between the Oakville AVA to the south and the St. Helena AVA to the north. It encompasses one of the widest parts of the valley, stretching from the lower slopes of the Vaca Mountain range on the east side to the slopes of the Mayacamas Mountains to the west. During the growing season the climate in Rutherford is similar to its neighboring AVAs, with sunny days and warm temperatures that give way to significantly cooler evenings and nights. This dramatic diurnal variation is perfect for Cabernet; the fruit ripens during the day but then essentially rests at night, allowing the grapes to retain acidity and structure.

Rutherford is also distinguished by the complexity of its soils, with distinct differences between the valley floor and the western and eastern slopes. The valley floor has older, finer, alluvial soils, while the slopes feature younger, rockier soils made of volcanic and sedimentary material. All of the soils are low fertility and well-drained, and therefore suitable for grape growing.