



THE STORY

First planted to Merlot and Cabernet Franc in 1984, the RCF Vineyard (named for Fred and Juelle's son, Robert Charles Fisher) runs along the bank of Simmons Creek on our Calistoga estate. Comprised primarily of cobble stones and loam, this site yields wines of depth and character inspired by classic Right Bank blends.

THE WINE

- 81% Merlot, 10% Petite Verdot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon
- Whole-berry fermented in open-top concrete and oak fermenters
- Aged 22 months in French oak barrels (100% new)
- Bottled unfinned and unfiltered
- Alcohol by volume: 15.3%
- Bottle date: July 2016
- 110 cases produced

TASTING NOTES

The 2014 Merlot RCF Vineyard is fruity, forward and expressive, with lovely savory overtones and plenty of aromatic nuance. Beams of supporting tannin give the wine its shape and overall proportion. Dark red cherry, plum, spice and new leather are nicely pushed forward. Far from an easygoing wine, this is a Merlot with structure, not to mention considerable pedigree and depth.

~ 92 points, Antonio Galloni, *Vinous Media*