

2013 MERLOT
napa valley

In 1983, with dreams of raising their young family on a farm, Tony and Herta Peju bought thirty acres of vines in the famed Rutherford district of the Napa Valley. Since then, the Peju family has maintained a meticulous focus on the land, fostering sustainable and environmental consciousness across their five estates. Still family-owned and operated with daughters Lisa and Ariana poised to take the helm, Peju Winery has become an integral piece of the Napa Valley landscape.

VINEYARD

Peju's Rutherford Estate is a California Certified Organic vineyard, and is planted primarily with Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot and Cabernet Franc. Persephone Ranch is sustainably farmed and its Pope Valley climate is suited to grow Sauvignon Blanc, as well as Zinfandel, Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, and Merlot. Drawing from such varied terroir, the wines exhibit the perfect blend of mountain-fruit focus and Rutherford complexity.

VINTAGE

A textbook grape growing year for the Napa Valley, 2013 started off with healthy winter rains leading into a warm, dry spring and an early bud break. The extended heat spike at the start of July made summer temperatures consistently warm, allowing the grapes to mature steadily and develop complex flavors. Winemaker Sara Fowler describes 2013 as "beautiful, balanced and delicious."

TASTING

Made in a firmly structured style with plenty of grip, our 2013 Merlot exudes aromas of dark berries, plum and subtle cedar. The palate features flavors of raspberry, cherry, cocoa and currants. With a hint of spice on the finish, this broad and sculpted wine is not your classic Merlot. A great food wine with a wide range of cuisines, this bottling will continue to mature for the next 5- 7 years.

APPELLATION
napa valley

VINEYARD
*rutherford estate,
persephone*

COMPOSITION
99% merlot, 1% malbec

COOPERAGE
*60% french oak and 40%
american oak, 40% new*

AGING
18 months

ALCOHOL
14.5%

TA
6.2 g/l

PH
3.59

HARVEST DATE
october 2013

BOTTLING DATE
june 2015

RELEASE DATE
january 2016

CELLARING
enjoy now through 2019