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## Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon

SILVER OAK

### TASTING NOTES

Our 2014 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon has a garnet color with a ruby red rim and bluish tint. It has an alluring nose of chocolate-covered strawberries, vanilla, nutmeg, truffle and sage. On the palate, it has a broad yet delicate entry and offers cranberry flavors. These flavors are complemented by raspberry and pluot with savory black olive characters on the mid-palate. The wine finishes with silky tannins, cedar and bramble flavors with excellent length and return. This wine is drinkable upon release, but given proper cellaring conditions can be enjoyed through 2038.

### BLENDING AND AGING

Our 2014 Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon is composed of 97.7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1.3% Merlot, 0.5% Petit Verdot, 0.3% Malbec and 0.2% Cabernet Franc. Blended in early 2015, the wine was then aged for 24 months in 50% new and 50% once-used American oak barrels from our Missouri cooperage, The Oak. Early blending assures a balanced core and allows the components to achieve a seamless harmony during barrel aging. After bottling in the spring of 2017, each bottled was aged an additional 15 months before being released in August of 2018.

### VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

The 2014 vintage was an even and uneventful growing season with a compressed harvest window. Dry conditions persisted as the Alexander Valley had a mild winter. Fortuitous late winter precipitation provided the vines with plenty of soil moisture for a mid-March budbreak. Most Alexander Valley vineyards went into bloom in mid-May and moved through fruit set quickly. Consistent bloom and set are positive harbingers of even ripening later in the season. The late summer was warm and dry, punctuated by few heat events and moderate conditions that continued into the harvest season. Harvest began in Alexander Valley on September 3 and progressed quickly, with most fruit being crushed in a three week period. Overall, the 2014 vintage was friendly to grapegrowers, providing winemakers fruit with concentration of ripe berry flavors at moderate sugars and with natural acidity, resulting in fresh and well-balanced wines with great aging potential.

VINTAGE	2014
APPELLATION	Alexander Valley
COMPOSITION	97.7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1.3% Merlot, 0.5% Petit Verdot, 0.3% Malbec, 0.2% Cabernet Franc
BOTTLE SIZES	750ml, 1.5L Magnum, 3L Double Magnum, 6L Imperial
ALCOHOL	13.8%
RELEASE DAY	August 4, 2018

