



The Paloma Story

Founded by Jim and Barbara Richards and carried forward by their son Sheldon, Paloma Vineyard remains a true family operation. Today, Sheldon crafts the wines while his son Caston—the third generation at Paloma—serves as general manager and continues to learn the winemaking craft.

Our approach is hands-on and intentional: estate fruit is picked in small lots, fermented with daily hand punch-downs, and aged in a thoughtful balance of one third new and two thirds neutral French oak. The result is wines known for their smooth, velvety texture and layered complexity, vintage after vintage.

Paloma's 2,000-foot Spring Mountain estate defines its wines. Rocky volcanic soils, cool mountain breezes, and gentler temperatures than the valley floor—cooler days and warmer evenings—yield concentrated berries with vibrant aromatics, natural structure, and age-worthy elegance that clearly express a sense of place.

In 2003, Paloma Vineyard's 2001 Merlot was named ***Wine of the Year*** by Wine Spectator, chosen from more than 15,000 wines worldwide. Since then, Paloma Merlot has also appeared twice more in the Wine Spectator Top 100—2004 for the 2002 vintage (#54) and 2009 for the 2006 vintage (#65)—and in 2012 our 2009 Cabernet Sauvignon earned the magazine's Special Selection.



2014 Merlot

The 2014 Paloma Merlot exhibits deep ruby color, with a bright, sweet, multi-layered nose of raspberries, currants, red plum and background notes of coffee and anise. This youthful wine benefits from aeration, revealing a lush mouthfeel and beautiful ripeness of fruit on the mid-palate. The wine has a solid backbone, true to its Spring Mountain origins, complemented by long, sweet tannins and a velvety finish. Truly an age-worthy wine, this Merlot would pair beautifully with a rack of lamb, or boeuf bourguignon. Enjoy!

AVA	Spring Mountain District, Napa Valley	Vintage	2014
Blend	100% Merlot	Alcohol	14.8%
Cooperage	33% New French Oak (Nadalié)	Production	1710 Cases
Bottled	May 2016	Released	August 2018

Vintage Notes: 2014 is generally described as warm and dry, with a balanced ripening period and retained fresh acidity in the grapes. It was the third in a series of high-quality vintages (2012, 2013, 2014) and is seen as a great vintage, though perhaps not as powerful as the 2013s. The wines are known for their brightness, savory notes, and vibrant flavors.

Aging Potential: Paloma wines have historically shown the ability to age gracefully for 20 to 30 years, though the exact arc depends on each vintage. The 2014 vintage is expected to peak between 10 and 15 years, showing its most harmonious balance in that timeframe.