



## 2007 Merlot

*Napa Valley*



This 100% Merlot is rich and ripe with wonderful expressions of blue berries and dark fruits. The 2007 displays a soft velvety texture with succulent flavors of plum, French vanilla and spice. Its deep ruby hue is followed by hints of underbrush, sweet mocha, black and red fruits, and dusty, loamy soil notes. This Merlot is a perfect accompaniment to barbecued chicken, pot roast or mushroom risotto.

The 2007 summer growing season was mild to cool, with few days topping 100 degrees, even in the warmest locations in the appellation. There were also notably fewer days in the 90s, and harvest followed a traditional, even relaxed, pace. There was a brief period of heat that spiked around Labor Day, with temperatures reaching into the 100's and humidity in the teens. This heat spike added to the boost of sugar development that we were looking for to complement the excellent flavors that were developing.

### AWARDS AND RATINGS:

*ROBERT PARKER 88POINTS~ The 2007 Merlot is more supple and seamless, although it still has some tannin to resolve. Its deep ruby hue is followed by hints of underbrush, sweet mocha, black and red fruits, and dusty, loamy soil notes.*

### VINTAGE STATISTICS:

BLEND	<i>100% Merlot</i>
HARVEST DATE	<i>September, 2007</i>
BOTTLING	<i>June, 2009</i>
AGING	<i>21 months in French Oak</i>
ALCOHOL	<i>14.7% Unfiltered</i>
PRODUCTION	<i>411cases</i>
RELEASE DATE	<i>March, 2010</i>