



2009 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT

Winemaker Notes

Our Napa Valley Merlot has always been a favorite for those who want to open and enjoy a soft, supple red wine right away, without waiting! We blend our exuberant "born ready" Merlot with Malbec, which adds a hint of raspberry and spice to the full fruit characteristics of strawberry and cherry. Our 2009 vintage will delight your palate.

All The Facts

Appellation:	Napa Valley
Varietal:	Merlot
Case Production:	5,200
Aging:	15 months, French, American and Eastern European oak
Suggested Retail Price:	\$24
Enjoyability:	Drink now through 2015 for optimum enjoyment

On the Vine

Our 2009 Napa Valley Merlot is a blend of fruit from our Komes Ranch in Rutherford, our St. Helena, Crossroads Ranch in Oakville, and our Cypress Ranch in Pope Valley. While there is no magic recipe for making great Merlot, we have found that the combination of vineyard site, meticulous farming methods, and specialized clone and rootstock selection allows us to craft Merlots of great complexity and depth. The magic occurs in how quickly our Merlot disappears!

The 2009 season has been a wonderfully balanced time in the vineyards. Even though rainfall was a third below average this year, the timing of it worked to the advantage of the vines. Couple the perfectly timed rain with a cooler growing season and Mother Nature let our vines do what they do best: produce outstanding fruit with deep, complex flavors.



**FLORA
SPRINGS.**

WINERY & VINEYARDS