

GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

NAPA VALLEY



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Alcohol.....14.3% by volume
Fermentation...indigenous yeast
Harvest date....Sept. 6-8, 2004
Sugar25.0° Brix
Bottling date....July 17, 2006
Release date.....Sept. 15, 2007
Total acid5.70 g/L
pH3.62
Time in oak18 months
Type of oak.....mixture of large and
small French oak
barrels; 20% new
Production.....4,327 cases (12/750 ml.)
519 cases (12/375 ml.)
Blend100% Merlot

2004 MERLOT

ESTATE GROWN • NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE: An early spring, a warm summer and a hot spell at harvest created perfect growing conditions for one of the earliest harvests we've had in 10 years. This produced a small crop of high quality grapes with wonderful concentration and deep flavors.

VINEYARD: We blend grapes from four of our organically-grown estate Napa Valley vineyards to create this 100% Merlot. The majority of our grapes come from our cool American Canyon and Carneros vineyards, which contribute bright fruit and structure while the Merlot from our warmer vineyards in Yountville and Calistoga adds texture and elegance. By blending wine from different growing regions within Napa Valley, we create a complex, balanced Merlot.

THE WINE: Estate grown means the grapes came entirely from our own vineyards, so we have total control of the quality from the vine to the bottle. This is a full-bodied Merlot with rich aromas and flavors of ripe cherry and black berries with hints of cedar and spice. A Cabernet lovers' Merlot, the wine's solid structure promises it will gain in complexity and silkiness with age.