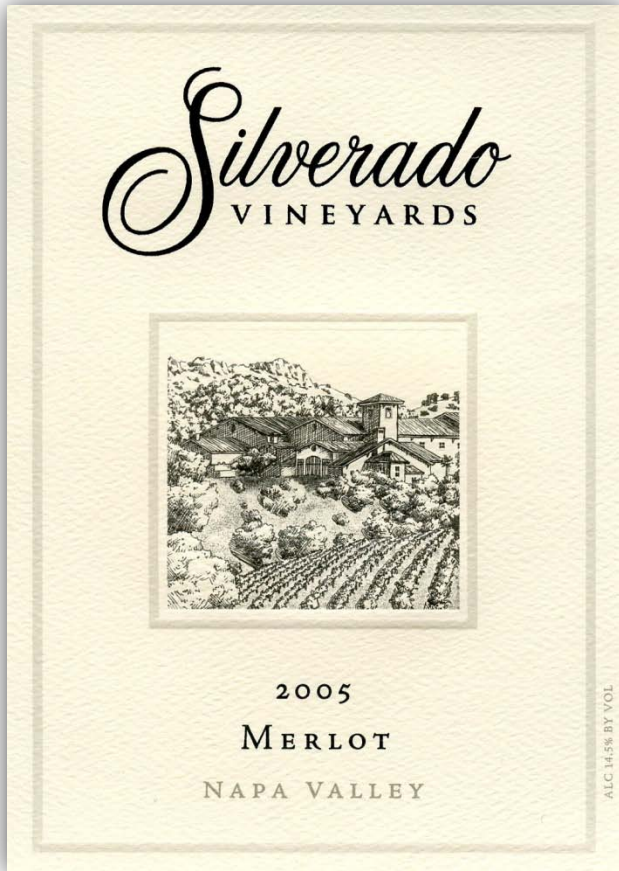


2005 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT



In 1981, Ron and Diane Miller established Silverado Vineyards in the heart of Stags Leap District. Over the years, they expanded their estate to include six distinctive vineyards in the Napa Valley and Carneros. The beautiful fruit from these ranches is the exclusive source of Silverado Vineyards' Estate and Single Vineyard wines.

Silverado Vineyards
6121 Silverado Trail
Napa CA 94558
(T) 707.257.1770
(F) 707.257.1538
www.silveradovineyards.com

VINEYARDS

MT. GEORGE VINEYARD (ESTATE, 65%)

Located east of Napa, Mt. George Vineyard is the site of one of the first grape plantings in the valley in the 19th century. The deep, gravelly soils are derived from volcanic rock and ash, providing depth and structure to Silverado's wines.

STAGS LEAP DISTRICT VINEYARD (ESTATE, 17%)

The sloping, gravelly soils and sunny exposure of this vineyard helped establish the reputation of Stags Leap District for fine Cabernet Sauvignon.

18% SELECTED NAPA VALLEY VINEYARDS

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

93% Merlot

6% Cabernet Sauvignon

1% Petit Verdot

VINTAGE NOTES

A wet beginning to the year and continued rainfall well into spring delayed bloom and fruit set. Cool weather, including lingering fog, throughout summer into September lead to concern about ripening the larger than normal crop. But, warm days arrived, allowing the grapes to ripen and harvest to start in earnest by the end of September.

HARVEST DATES: September 24-October 10

WINEMAKING NOTES

After the grapes were harvested at an average brix of 25.3 degrees, the must was fermented in stainless tanks at 85 degrees. The wine was drained and pressed off the skins after 21 days.

FERMENTATION: The wine completed malolactic fermentation in barrel.

BARREL AGING: 16 months in French oak (80%) and American oak (20%). Total new oak barrels were 37% (84% French and 16% American).

CASE PACK: 12/750ml

ALCOHOL: 14.7%

T.A.: 5.42g/L

PH: 3.63

TASTING NOTES

Our 2005 Merlot offers aromas of earth, dried herbs and cherry. On the palate, it has a medium body, lush fruit flavors and balanced acidity with a long finish that has a tingle and a tang and starts the evening with a bang.