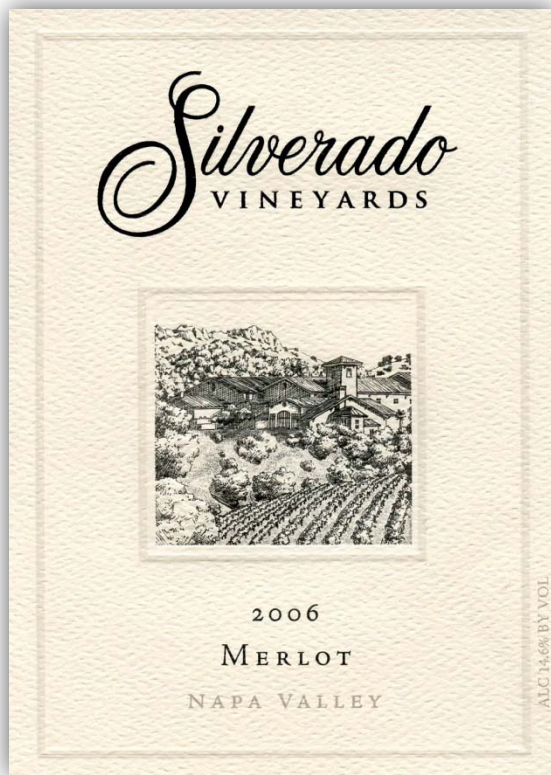


2006 NAPA VALLEY MERLOT



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 (49%)

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 (32%)

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

VARIETAL COMPOSITION

96% Merlot
4% Cabernet Sauvignon

VINTAGE NOTES

Flooding kicked off the New Year in Napa Valley, which made for great news headlines, but did little damage to dormant vines, as seasonal cover crops stabilized soils in vineyards and rain continued late into spring. Gray skies and cool, wet weather delayed bud break by a few weeks, but also kept frost at bay. By early June, the sun came out and vines began to bloom and set fruit. In mid-July, a record-setting heat wave lasted about ten days. Whatever grapes may have been sunburned were removed during the normal post-veraison cluster thinning. Seasonal and somewhat cooler weather returned in August. The mild weather pattern continued throughout the harvest, allowing for moderately paced and deliberate ripening and a long harvest period.

HARVEST DATES: September 23 to October 10

WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were harvested at an average brix of 24.5, and the wine was drained and pressed off the skins after 17 days.

FERMENTATION: The wine completed malolactic fermentation in barrel.

BARREL AGING: 15 months; 38% new oak, of which 80% was French and 20% American

CASE PACK: 12/750ml

ALCOHOL: 14.6%

T.A.: 5.25 g/L

PH: 3.68

TASTING NOTES

Ruby red color. Cedar, tobacco, earth, cinnamon stick and black pepper spice with baked berry compote and a hint of Worcestershire. Medium bodied with a dense mid-palate texture. As the wine opens it continues to show more fruit with silky tannins on the finish.