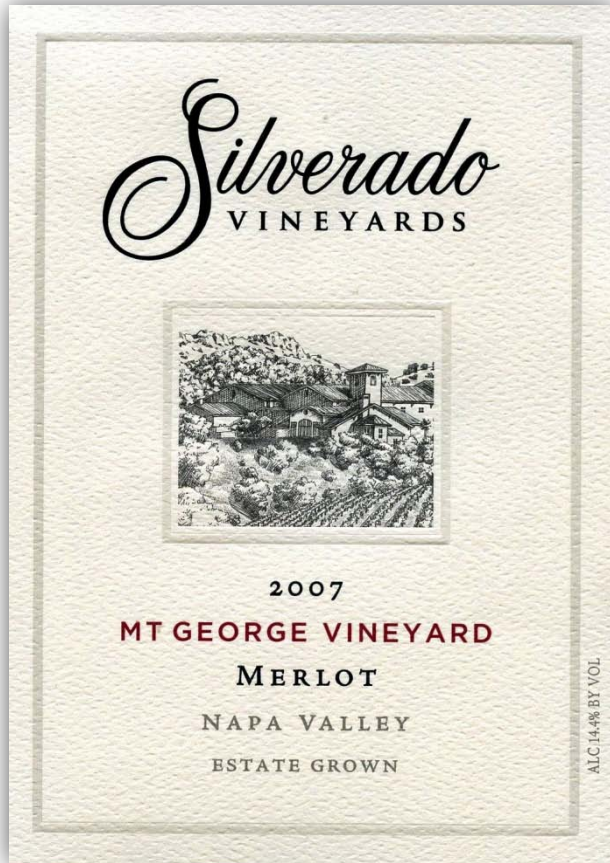


# 2007 MERLOT MT. GEORGE



*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.*

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## VINEYARDS

### MT. GEORGE VINEYARD (96%)

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

### STAGS LEAP DISTRICT VINEYARD (4%)

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

## VARIETAL COMPOSITION

89% Merlot

11% Cabernet Sauvignon

## VINTAGE NOTES

The year began dry with some very cold days and single-digit nighttime temperatures around the New Year holiday. The season continued dry, with about 60% of normal precipitation throughout the appellation. Temperatures were warmer than normal as winter continued into spring with resulting earlier budding, bloom and set in the vineyards across all varieties. The summer growing season continued on the mild to cool side, with few days topping 100 degrees, even in the warmest locations in the appellation.

## WINEMAKING NOTES

The grapes were harvested at an average brix of 28.8°. The wine was drained and pressed off the skins after 16 days. Completing malolactic fermentation in the barrel, the wine was then racked and placed back in the barrel to age for 13 months. Oak profile during aging, 90% French oak and 10% American oak, 44% of the French oak was new.

## BOTTLED:

July 2009

## ALCOHOL / T.A. / PH:

14.7% / 5.2 g/L / 3.69

## TASTING NOTES

Oak aromas of vanilla, cedar, and sandalwood are well integrated with the aromas of bright raspberry fruit, sweet baking spices and freshly picked herbs. Full bodied with well mannered tannins and a balanced long lingering finish.