

ST. FRANCIS WINERY & VINEYARDS

2006 MERLOT

Wild Oak SONOMA COUNTY

HARVEST Sept. - Oct. 2006

AGING Twenty-Four Months

STORAGE American & French Oak

PH 3.53 **TA** 0.65g/100 mls

BOTTLING April 2009

ALCOHOL 14.5% by volume

AGING POTENTIAL 6 to 10 years

CASES PRODUCED 3000 cases

Wild Oak wines by St. Francis are made from grapes that have been hand-picked from small lots of elite terroir bordered by Heritage Oak trees in Sonoma County's most outstanding AVA's. Wild Oak Merlot is a lush, rich, full-bodied wine characterizing classic Bordeaux structure. Small crops of intensely flavored fruit from select blocks of the 39 year old estate Behler Vineyard in Sonoma Valley provide us with rich, fleshy fruit typical of Merlot grown on this cool valley floor vineyard. A second Merlot component is grown high above the fog line along the Mayacamas ridge overlooking Sonoma Valley on our estate Nuns Canyon Vineyard. This Mountain grown Merlot provides the tannins needed to give the wine structure and complexity. Additionally, a small amount of Cabernet Sauvignon from our estate Lagomarsino Vineyard in the Russian River Valley provides depth of color and berrylike flavors to complement the final blend.

A surprisingly dense wine, the 2006 vintage displays unmistakable aromas of black cherry, chopped chocolate and pencil-lead. Flavors of ripe red fruit, spice box and reserved tannins create a lengthy finish.



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