



red truck®

2008 central coast merlot

Winemaker's Comments

"Dried cherries and spices blend with hints of chocolate and olive to round out this most elegant and delicious wine."

John Allbaugh, Winemaker

Vineyards

Our Merlot comes from the beautiful Central Coast which produces excellent fruit with concentrated, lush flavors. All the grapes come from two select vineyards: the Sweetwater vineyard in Monterey and the Firehouse vineyard in Paso Robles. The moderate summer temperatures create the wine's smooth finish.

Vintage

The 2008 growing season was dramatic with lower than normal rainfall during the winter, an April frost right after bud-break, followed by a heat spell and an extremely dry spring. The summer and fall months were ideal with mild conditions and no precipitation. Mother Nature finished the season producing lighter yields, smaller berry size, and tight clusters resulting in high flavor concentration and excellent quality fruit.

Fermentation & Aging

Individual lots of fruit were harvested separately according to ripeness and balance of acidity. The grapes were de-stemmed and crushed very gently ensuring that whole berries remained in the must, and supplying concentrated fruit. Fermentation occurred in stainless steel and the wine was pumped-over twice daily to extract ideal color and flavor. The fermenting wines were tasted daily and pressed off their skins once they achieved optimum tannin. The wine was racked twice before being put on dark-toast French oak.

Technical Data

Blend:	100% Merlot
Alcohol:	13.8%
Acidity:	0.60 g/L
pH:	3.60
Released	July 2010
Production:	10,000
UPC:	098652900038
SRP:	\$11.99



Cruise into great taste!