

# 2008 Merlot Morrison Vineyard Sonoma Valley



## ***Certified Organic***

### ***Merlot taken to another level with uncommon depth and richness***

*95% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon,*

A more idyllic setting could not be found than Ian Morrison's Merlot Vineyard. Cross the Sonoma Creek at the mouth of Adobe Canyon into this small hollow, nestled against the hills surrounded by the forest's edge. Merlot loves it here, kept happy by Ian's green organic thumb. It's always a bit cooler here than the valley floor. This Merlot responded in kind, expressing this place, this terroir, in its nose, its taste, its lush fruit flavor, and its balance.

The 2008 Vintage produced wines that are gentle, well balanced (if made correctly) and complex. The weather was even, without late season heat spikes or unseasonable rains. Following the big harvest of 2007, which produced intense wines, 2008 was a "rebound" year, when the grapevines produce smaller crops and smaller bunches. This natural cycle provides winemakers with opportunities to show subtleties and complexities in the wines that in "big" years go unnoticed. We recognized this going into the 2008 harvest and modified our techniques accordingly.

Whole berry fermentation, gentle handling and attention to the myriad of details over its three-year journey from vine to bottle has enhanced the magic experienced in the vineyard and the vintage. After starting the fermentation on indigenous yeast we inoculated with Pasteur Red, a traditional Bordeaux yeast, that accentuates structure. The organic farming techniques used by Ian Morrison assured that there was an abundance of complexity, not so much created by but uncovered by organic methods. We've found that organically grown grapes show more terroir, more variation amongst different sections of the vineyard than do conventionally farmed grapes. This you'll find very evident when you experience this Merlot. It is special.

We age most of our red wines in the barrel longer than any other American winery. Wine ages better in the barrel than it does in the bottle. We think you will agree with this dedication to excellence when you taste Deerfield wines.

Deerfield produces clean wines that are low in histamines and sulfite. Learn more at [www.cleanwines.info](http://www.cleanwines.info).

Barrel aged 40 months in 70% American and 30% French oak, 38% new.  
Unfined, Velcorin free, Vegan, Organically made  
Alcohol 13.2%, Residual sugar 0.027%.  
SO2 at release 12 ppm, low histamines. We made 330 cases.

For more information contact the Winemaker, Robert Rex  
[robert.rex@deerfieldranch.com](mailto:robert.rex@deerfieldranch.com)

[www.deerfieldranch.com](http://www.deerfieldranch.com)

