

2009 Merlot Morrison Vineyard Sonoma Valley



Certified Organic

Merlot with uncommon depth and richness

90% Merlot, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Cabernet Franc

The Vineyard: 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 2009 Vintage was cooler than normal with normal rainfall, although "normal" is changing with climate change. The odd numbered vintages have for decades produced the biggest wines. 2009 was more like a typical even vintage, with gentler more elegant wines, perfect for Merlot.

Vinification: Whole berry fermentation, gentle handling and attention to the myriad of details over its journey from vine to bottle has enhanced the magic experienced in the vineyard. 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 taste this Merlot. It is special. We added a bit of Cabernet Franc to give the Merlot a lift on the palate and some Cabernet to give it a longer finish. The blend was done by taste.

We age 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, low in histamines and sulfites. Learn more at www.cleanwine.info.

Barrel aged 42 months in 70% American and 30% French oak, 25% new Unfined, Velcorin free, Vegan, Organically grown and organically made Alcohol 13.1%, Residual sugar 0.22g/L.

SO2 at release 12 ppm, low histamines

Bottled 468 July 2013, released December 2013

For more information contact the Winemaker, Robert Rex
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Taste the Passion

