

WINE STATISTICS

| BLEND: | 76% Merlot; 14% Cabernet Sauvignon; 10% Cabernet Franc |
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| VINEYARDS: | 53% Ricci; 21% Rancho Salina; 14% Sangiacomo; 7% Atwood; 5% Horne |
| APPELLATION: | Sonoma Valley |
| HARVEST DATES: | September 7 th through October 29 th , 2007 |
| SUGAR AT HARVEST: | 24.6 degrees Brix average |
| FERMENTATION: | 12 days in stainless steel tanks, pumped over three times daily |
| AGING / COOPERAGE: | Aged 24 months in 20% new oak barrels: French, Hungarian, and American |
| ALCOHOL: | 14.0% by volume |
| ACIDITY: | TA = 0.63 g/100ml; pH = 3.45 |
| PRODUCTION: | 1,689 cases (12 x 750ml); 7 cases (6 x 1.5L bottles) |
| RELEASE DATE: | November 1 st , 2010 |
| WINERY RETAIL: | \$28 per 750ml bottle, upon release |

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

This powerful yet elegant Merlot is crafted in the classic Bordeaux style that Walter Schug pioneered in California while winemaster of Joseph Phelps Vineyards (1973 to 1983). The grapes were sourced from the **Ricci Vineyard** and **Sangiacomo Vineyards** in the Carneros district of southern Sonoma Valley, as well as the **Rancho Salina Vineyard** in Sonoma Valley. These cooler microclimates provide the longer growing season necessary for Merlot to ripen slowly and develop maximum flavor. It has a spicy bouquet, deep color and exhibits full-bodied flavors of cherry, blackberry and spice. Try it now with grilled fish, pasta, lamb and steaks, or cellar it for 5 to 7 years.

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