



## MONTICELLO VINEYARDS

*Merlot*

ESTATE GROWN IN THE NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE 2007

### TASTING NOTES

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This wine is showing great personality right on impact, the fruit is ripe and full of lightly jammy red-berry and creamy mocha aromas. This wine is full bodied and framed by light grip tannins. The light beam of acidity keeps the wine in balance and will help this wine to age gracefully.

This wine is drinking well now and should be enjoyed now through 2018.

- Chris Corley, Winemaker

### VINEYARDS, VINTAGE AND VINIFICATION

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Home Ranch Vineyard    *Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley*

Knollwood Vineyard    *Oak Knoll District, Napa Valley*

Our Merlot vineyards are planted to Clones #181 and #314 on #3309 and #420A rootstock. The grapes are lush and power packed with intense berry flavors and an abundance of bright fruit.

The components for this wine were all harvested separately based on their individual ripening characteristics. The main lot of Merlot used in this blend was the last lot that we picked in 2007. Fantastically, these grapes were able to hang on the vine until October 19, developing full ripeness of flavor and tannin, but only accumulating 22.5 brix. For this we can credit Mother Nature. The result, with a good dose of Cabernet Franc, is a ripe fully textured wine with vibrant acidity and great balance.

*Oak - 18 Months in French Oak, 33% New*

*Alcohol - 14.1%*

**SMALL WINERY; BIG REPUTATION.** The CORLEY FAMILY grows and produces 15,000 cases of exclusively Napa Valley wines designated as MONTICELLO VINEYARDS, CORLEY RESERVE and our CORLEY Proprietary Red Wine. We grow Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc, Merlot, Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Syrah on five small vineyard sites in the Oak Knoll, Yountville, Rutherford and St. Helena appellations of Napa Valley.