



BLACKSTONE

WINEMAKER'S SELECT

2008 MERLOT

CALIFORNIA

Grapes for our Winemaker's Select Merlot were sourced from Monterey, Paso Robles, and San Benito County where cold temperatures and lack of rainfall persistently stressed the vines in the 2008 vintage. Fall brought a steady harvest with heavy loads of lush fruit loaded with crisp acidity. It was a challenging year for growing wine grapes in the Central Coast, but the harsh growing conditions resulted in fruit with rich color, dynamic tannins, and concentrated plum and black cherry fruit flavors.

A night harvest was implemented to maintain freshness and ensure the highest quality fruit. Upon arrival the grapes were destemmed and transferred into stainless steel tanks to undergo primary fermentation. The juice then spent time in French and American oak barrels to develop complexity and smooth texture in the mouthfeel.

An expressive wine, the 2008 Winemaker's Select Merlot presents aromas of violets and bright raspberries with assorted flavors of plum, cherry, and bold blackberry that delight the palate. Texturally complex with a round middle and a long finish, the Winemaker's Select Merlot is a fantastic food pairing wine. Try spiced lamb chops, pasta salad, and roasted chicken.

TECHNICAL DETAILS

Varietals:

78% Merlot

11% Syrah

6% Tannat

4% Petite Sirah

1% Cabernet Sauvignon

pH: 3.59

Alcohol: 13.5%

