



MONTICELLO VINEYARDS
CORLEY FAMILY NAPA VALLEY

VINTAGE 2002

MONTICELLO VINEYARDS

Estate Grown Merlot

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 and Pinot Noir on the five small vineyard sites in the Oak Knoll, Yountville, Rutherford and St. Helena appellations of Napa Valley.

Tasting Notes

Our Vintage 2002 Estate Grown Merlot shows aromatics of black cherry, olive and notes of vanilla. The flavors follow with plum, cherries, and a subtle note of black licorice. The wine is extremely well-balanced from attack through to the long and smooth finish. The medium tannins and low-to-medium acids are extremely well integrated just barely expressing themselves through the general silky texture.

"I feel the 2002 Vintage will show itself to be a great follow-up to the stellar 2001 vintage. In very general terms, this vintage will provide us wines that will be quite fruit forward and full, yet require a little less time in the bottle before they are ready to go. We approached our Merlot with a subtly gentler touch in 2002, particularly easing off on the duration and quantity of pump-overs in the latter half of the fermentation, in order to extract loads of fruit early in the ferment. - Chris Corley, Winemaker

Vineyard Locations *Home Ranch Vineyard and Knollwood Vineyard - Oak Knoll District of 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.

Our Cabernet Franc vineyards are planted to Clones #332, #312 and Clone X. Our Cabernet Franc is extremely aromatic and has an excellent backbone of structural tannins.

Harvest Dates / Brix September 23 - 30, 2002 at an average 24.5 Brix, Alcohol 14.1

Barrel Aging 18 Months French Oak, racked gently three times

Vintage Vintage 2002 produced a balanced grape crop that is average-to-light in terms of yield and showing excellent, intense colors and flavor concentration.



This certification mark guarantees a wine to be made 100% from grapes grown, produced and bottled in the Napa Valley. We are proud participants of the "100% Napa Valley" Certification Mark program. Look for the mark on the back label of our 2001 Monticello Vineyards Estate Grown Merlot.