

2004  
**MERLOT**  
SONOMA VALLEY

**R**ich and concentrated with a smooth, liquid velvet core, our 2004 Merlot offers vivid aromatics of ripe cherries and raspberries. The powerful fruit aromas carry through to the palate, with full mouth flavors of boysenberries and rich dark chocolate that linger through the finish. Its tannin structure maintains a graceful balance with the ripe fruit flavors and soft oak character derived from extended time spent aging in small oak barrels.

*Fill your mouth with the lush flavors of boysenberries and dark chocolate*

**Fruit**

83% Merlot, 7% Syrah, 7% Cabernet Franc, 3% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Harvest**

The fruit was hand selected from our sustainably farmed, estate grown vineyards from September 1 through September 29 at an average Brix of 25.3°. We began harvest earlier in 2004 than any on record due to both a small crop and extended heat waves in early September. The resulting wine shows good concentration, big up-front flavors, and moderate tannins.

**Winemaking**

- The juice was fermented to dryness at 70 - 85° F. with pumpovers twice a day, using aeration early in the fermentation process.
- The juice was pressed at dryness to ensure a balance of soft tannins with ripe fruit flavors.
- The wine was aged for 16 months in both French, Eastern European, and American oak barrels, 30% new.

**Food Pairing**

Beef short ribs in a red wine reduction sauce served over a bed of parmesan infused polenta.



**WINERY & VINEYARDS**

*A Family Winegrowing Legacy Since 1904*



**Release Date**  
**July 2008**

**Residual Sugar**  
**Dry**

**Total Acid**  
**0.64**

**Alcohol**  
**13.8%**

**pH**  
**3.48**



750ml bottle



1.5L bottle

**Winemaker's Comments**

*"Arthur Kunde, second generation winegrower of the Kunde family, had the nickname "Big Boy". Well, we might just go ahead and call our 2004 Merlot "Art" because it is a big boy, too. There's nothing shy about the aromas of cherries and raspberries. When you take a sip, it will fill your mouth with boysenberries and dark chocolate wrapped in a full-bodied richness that you'll want to savor. Better whip up some pot roast, mashed potatoes, and gravy tonight!"*

Tim Bell  
Winemaker