



2006 Estate Merlot, Stags Leap District, Napa Valley

Steltzner Vineyards & Stags Leap District

Stags Leap District is a unique place to farm grapes. Often called a valley within the Napa Valley, the Stags Leap District is influenced by cool evening breezes from the San Pablo bay and rocky volcanic soils. Combined with our eastern exposure this is an ideal place for growing grapes. Our family has been farming this land since 1965.

Vineyards

This wine is a blend of our three blocks of Merlot located in our estate vineyard in the Stags Leap District of the Napa Valley. We have blended a little bit of our Cabernet Sauvignon and Cabernet Franc for added complexity. This wine can be enjoyed now and will gain added complexity with cellar aging from 3 to 10 years.

Winemaker Notes:

Color: Nice dark garnet on the rim moving to a deep red almost black core.

Nose: Inviting floral notes mingle with those of cherries and blueberries. Also nice notes of baking spice and sweet French oak.

Mouth: Satisfying flavors of blueberries and cream with hints of cherries and some vanilla and oak notes from the barrels. There are nice dry tannins throughout that are well integrated and provide a long satisfying finish. This is a well balanced and supple wine that can be enjoyed now but will benefit from additional cellar aging.

Technical Data

Release Date ∞ April 2008

Harvest Date ∞ Sept 25 & Oct 16

Brix at Harvest: 25.8 brix average

Wine Data

TA : .68

PH.: 3.32

Alcohol: 14.3%

Fermentation: 10-15 days average

Barrel Ageing: 18 months

Mixed French Oak

Blend:

98% Merlot

2% Cabernet Franc