



ROBERT MONDAVI
WINERY

2 0 0 6

M E R L O T

N A P A V A L L E Y

• W I N E •

Varietal composition:

76% Merlot
13% Cabernet Sauvignon
5% Malbec
3% Syrah
3% Cabernet Franc

Winemaker's notes:

Aromas of ripe wild berries carry hints of bay leaf, forest floor and cedar. Fleshy blueberry and blackberry flavors lay atop a skeleton of well-structured tannins. A silky wine that envelops the mouth and ends with a lengthy finish.

Wine analysis:

Total acid: 6.41g/L
Final pH: 3.54
Residual sugar: 3.07g/L
Alcohol: 15.3% by volume

• V I N T A G E •

Napa Valley's 2006 vintage began with a wet winter that extended into spring, delivering more than twice the average rainfall for March and nearly four times the April average. The precipitation delayed bloom, but once the skies cleared, the vines had good fruit set and progressed slowly and steadily through slightly warmer than usual June weather. In July, a brief hot spell of four consecutive days over 100°F put the vines "on hold" before ripening continued when mild weather returned in August. Lower temperatures extended through September and October, with some fog and cloudy days. Overall, the 2006 growing season was significantly cooler than average, and harvest began generally later. We began picking Merlot on September 26 and finished on October 12. All the fruit was in the winery before light rains came in early November. Crop levels for 2006 were average and thanks to the long hang time, which allowed the grapes to ripen slowly and evenly, quality was excellent.

Grapes: Harvested at 25.2° Brix (average) with 0.71% initial acid and 3.51 pH

• V I N E Y A R D S •

Appellation:

Napa Valley

Grape Sourcing:

63% Stags Leap District AVA, 33% To Kalon Vineyard - Oakville AVA,
2% Los Carneros AVA, 2% other Napa Valley vineyards

• W I N E M A K I N G •

Hand-harvested in cool morning hours
Fermented at 83°F in stainless steel tanks
19 days maceration (skin contact) to soften tannins
In-barrel malolactic fermentation
14 months aging in medium-toast French oak barrels (15% new)