



## 1997 Reserve Merlot

Varietal	100% Merlot
Appellation	Napa Valley
Alcohol	14.2%
Release Date	September 1999
Case Production	300 cases

When asked to describe our Reserve Merlot as briefly as possible our response is "velvet hammer." We select our favorite barrels from the best lots to create our Reserve wines and the 1997 Reserve Merlot is our finest to date. Aromas of cedar, black cherry, truffle and sweet tobacco unfold on the nose. Supple and velvety rich on the palate, layered with dark ripe fruit, the wine finishes polished and round.

"Smooth, rich and polished. A big, complex, fruit-laden wine packed with currant, cherry, chocolate and cherry, finishing with rich, polished tannins."

- James Laube, *Wine Spectator*