



CHARLES CREEK

VINEYARD

2002 Miradero Merlot

Napa Valley | Sonoma County

The *2002 Miradero Merlot Napa County / Sonoma County* is a rich blend of Merlot from two of California's most prestigious appellations, Napa and Sonoma counties. With an eye toward developing the most luscious Merlot available from the absolute best vineyards possible, proprietors Bill and Gerry Brinton have created a Merlot that not only best typifies the varietal, but it is also their most carefully crafted Merlot, yet.

Technical Data

Blend:	85% Merlot, 15% Cabernet Sauvignon
Appellation:	Napa County Merlot 57%, Sonoma County Merlot 43%
Alcohol:	14.5 %
TA:	0.62 grams per liter
pH:	3.66 %
RS:	0.40 %
Release date:	July 1, 2004

Winemaker Notes

The *2002 Miradero Napa and Sonoma County Merlot* is a concentrated blend of rich Napa and Sonoma County fruit. Excellent vineyard sources, including our own Charles Creek Estate Vineyard, have delivered a wine with a supple and smooth texture. Crafted with the addition of Cabernet Sauvignon to emphasize its meticulous balance and tremendous depth of character, the **2002 Miradero** exudes layers of ripe, spicy flavors. Mocha-scented currant and black cherry hover on the palate, while this Miradero finishes with a long, chocolaty and toasty finish. Vanilla undertones and elegant mouthfeel linger and grow on the palate, while chocolate and boysenberry round out the finish.

This wine is ready to drink now, or can be aged from three to five years. With proper cellaring, it should develop quite nicely in the bottle, keeping its lovely structure well into 2009. This *2002 Miradero Napa and Sonoma County Merlot* offers depth, richness, and a long, elegant finish; and is best paired with sumptuous lamb and/or beef dishes.