



2000 MERLOT OAKVILLE RANCH VINEYARD



Not to be outdone by its Bordeaux-based brother, our Oakville Merlot is a tour de force. Merlot, meaning "young blackbird" in French, alludes to the grape's stunning dark-blue color and as seen here, results in a wine that is striking to the eye and plush on the palate. With mild herbaceous notes and earthy undertones, our Merlot is old-world in style, but by no means meek. Fruit-driven and full-bodied with a massive finish. The 2000 Merlot leaves an indelible mark that is undeniably Oakville. Focused and unafraid.

APPELLATION	<i>100% Oakville 80% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Sauvignon & 2% Cab Franc</i>	ANALYSIS	<i>Alcohol 14.1% pH 3.53 TA .59</i>
HARVEST	<i>September 12-27, 2000 Picked 24.5 Brix</i>	PRODUCTION	<i>1,100 cases</i>
VINEYARD	<i>Oakville Ranch Vineyard</i>	BOTTLED	<i>August 23, 2002 Suggested Retail: \$28</i>
BARREL AGING	<i>20 Months 55% New French Oak</i>	NOTES	
RELEASED	<i>February 4, 2004</i>		

H I S T O R Y

Founded in 1998 by Dave Miner, President of Oakville Ranch Vineyards, along with his wife Emily and his parents, Ed and Norma, Miner Family Vineyards produces small lot, hand crafted wines using fruit from Oakville Ranch, Ed and Norma's vineyard and other carefully selected California vineyards. We produce limited quantities of Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Syrah, Zinfandel, Sangiovese, Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Viognier and Sauvignon Blanc using a combination of old world winemaking techniques and modern technology. The focus of our label is to produce high end, reserve style wines that reflect the unique characteristics of individual vineyards or "terroir" where specific varietals grow best.