



2004 MERLOT

**American Wine Society 2006
Gold Medal**

**Savor “North of the Gate” 2006
Silver Medal**

***Wine Enthusiast* December 2006 87 points**

“Lots of bang for the buck here. Offers mouth-filling, juicy blackberry, cherry, pomegranate and coffee flavors in a bone-dry, soft wine, with a fairly complicated tannin structure.”

The grapes for this wine come from a vineyard on a rise in the heart of Alexander Valley. After fermentation, the wine was aged for 16 months in predominantly American oak barrels. Bill finds that the spice and vanilla component of American barrels complement the varietal characteristics of Merlot in a lovely way.

Varietal:	100% Merlot	Alcohol:	13.9%
Appellation:	Alexander Valley	% Malolactic:	100%
TA (g/100 ml):	.61	Brix at Harvest:	24.8
pH:	3.6	Residual Sugar:	.03
Winemaker:	Bill Arbios	Production:	1211 cases

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