



SBRAGIA

FAMILY VINEYARDS

2012 HOME RANCH MERLOT DRY CREEK VALLEY

"Simply put, 2012 will be one of the best vintages California has seen for decades."

—Alder Yarrow, VINOGRAPHY: A Wine Blog, October 2012



TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Appellation: Dry Creek Valley

Blend: 95% Merlot, 5% Cab Franc

Harvest: October 24-26, 2012

Cooperage: 18 months in new & used French Oak barrels

Alcohol: 14.6%

TA: 5.80 gm/L

RS: 0.4 gm/L

Cases Produced: 2,573

VINEYARD

Our Home Ranch Vineyard, which my family has farmed for decades, surrounds the family home at the southern end of Dry Creek Valley. The eight-acre Merlot vineyard sits on a flatland of Dry Creek Valley, an area that had a propensity to flood before the Dry Creek Dam was built. As a result, the soil features rocky clay loam components which contribute to great drainage in the vineyard, and vines that consistently produce richly concentrated Merlot grapes.

VINTAGE

"Classic" and "perfect" are just two accolades being bestowed upon the 2012 growing season and harvest. Textbook conditions saw near-ideal spring bud break, steady flowering, even fruit set, and a lengthy stretch of warm days and cool and often foggy nights during the long summer months. Late and light rains held off until grapes found optimal ripeness, bringing exceptional quality to the crush pad and into our cellar. The abundance of perfectly ripe grapes—with a smooth balance of acids and sugars produced excellent wines

WINEMAKER NOTES

Warm, lush flavors of cherry liqueur are punctuated with notes of bright red currant and rhubarb in our 2012 Home Ranch Merlot. The wine has a rich mouth-feel without being a heavyweight, with notes of dark chocolate, vanilla and cinnamon spice and an intriguing note of pink peppercorn. The tannins are soft and supple and the wine carries a long, smooth finish.



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