



MERITAGE
CALIFORNIA 2005
VINTNER'S RESERVE®

Winemaking Philosophy

For nearly three decades, Kendall-Jackson has remained relentlessly committed to producing only the finest quality wines from grapes grown in California's cool coastal vineyards. We carefully match climates and soil types for each grape varietal, and then handcraft each vineyard lot throughout the entire winemaking process. Our proprietary approach to winemaking has earned us our world-renowned reputation for red wines that consistently exhibit intense layers of flavor with complexity and balance.

Key Points

- "Meritage," pronounced like "heritage," is a combination of the words merit and heritage.
- Only Meritage Association members may use this terminology. The association was founded in 1988.
- Grown in California's cool coastal vineyards.
- Napa benchland vineyards provide cassis and licorice flavors with generous, round tannins.
- Sonoma County mountain and hillside vineyards add black cherry flavors and superb wine structure.
- The Merlot from Mendocino County adds flavors of brambleberry, raspberry and spice.



Tasting Notes

"The 2005 Meritage is a great follow-up to the delicious 2004 vintage. It has a similar flavor profile; blackberry, black licorice and rich Bing cherry. An upfront vanilla sweetness is noticed in the aroma which pulls all these attributes together. The palate has juicy cherry, cassis and coffee tones. The wine finishes with a fullness provided by ripe, rich tannins and a lasting finish full of flavor."
—Randy Ullom, Winemaster

Statistical Information

Appellation:
California

Composition:
51% Cabernet Sauvignon
46% Merlot
3% Cabernet Franc

Oak Aging:
The wine has been aged on oak that has been toasted heavy to achieve high vanilla and spice flavors.

Alcohol: 13.5%
T.A.: 0.62/100ml
pH: 3.54

Growing Regions:
41% Napa County
36% Sonoma County
17% Mendocino County
3% Central Coast
2% Solano County
1% Lake County

