



MERITAGE
CALIFORNIA 2006
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.
- The North Coast benchland and mountain vineyards, most notably in Napa, Sonoma and Mendocino Counties, provide cassis, black cherry and licorice flavors with generous, round tannins.
- The Central Coast vineyards, primarily in Monterey County, add further softness to the tannins as well as ripe cherry, bramble fruit and coffee tones.



Tasting Notes

"The 2006 Meritage is a great follow-up to the delicious 2005 vintage. It has a similar aroma profile; blackberry, black licorice, chocolate 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:

66% Cabernet Sauvignon

32% Merlot

1% Cabernet Franc

1% Petit Verdot

Oak Aging:

Wine has been aged on oak that has been toasted heavy, as well as oak toasted to achieve high vanilla and enhanced spice flavors.

Alcohol: 13.5%

T.A.: 0.53/100ml

pH: 3.70

Growing Regions:

35% Monterey County

19% San Benito County

15% Sonoma County

14% Napa County

7% Mendocino County

6% Lake County

4% Solano County

