



andrew lane

Merlot

N A P A V A L L E Y 2 0 0 5

A wine of grace that celebrates the elegant capabilities of California fruit and a truly exceptional vintage, our 2005 Merlot might be described as European in style. Remarkably food-friendly and versatile at table, Early Girl Tomato and Piquillo pepper soup with licorice oil is a favorite. A strong sense of place owes itself to coveted grapes from a prized vineyard situated behind the St. Helena Library, where locals walk their dogs along trails in the heart of Napa Valley.

Rich, deep and balanced, the earthy wine is black as night in the glass and displays aromas of tobacco and leather, much like the scent of those old, bound library books. In the mouth, it's briary, with lush, dark fruits, anise, tar, and a finish like an old-fashioned baseball pitching duel. Imagine it: the fresh-cut grass, a glove's smooth leather, the chewing tobacco. Even the player's eyblack, streaked to reflect the sun's glare, matches this Merlot's glint.

winemaking notes

Hang time in 2005 was the longest on record for many in Napa and led to the intense flavors and soft texture found in this Merlot. The wine was blended with six percent Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon for girth and six percent Lodi Petit Verdot for those hypnotic aromatics. Eighteen months in tank was followed by twelve months in barrel with medium French oak staves to age and soften.

andrew lane wines

Andrew Lane is a small family winery that began in St. Helena, California in 1978. Founded by David Dickson and named for his two sons, Andrew and Lane, we have enjoyed a reputation for limited production wines of exceptional quality for over three decades. Drawing fruit from a select few of Napa Valley's finest vineyards, we specialize in Oakville hillside Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon, Petite Sirah and a Gamay Noir from one of the last remaining vineyards of its kind. With our move to Emeryville in 2005, the Dickson family now celebrates the progressive nature of the urban wine experience as a proud member of the thriving [East Bay Vintners Alliance](#).

88% Merlot

6% Cabernet Sauvignon

6% Petit Verdot

Alcohol: 13.2%

TA: .68

pH: 3.52

Production: 900 Cases

Retail: \$17