

VILLCANA

Winery = Vineyard



2009 ESTATE MERLOT

COMPOSITION:	80% Merlot 20% Cabernet Sauvignon
VINEYARD:	Villicana Estate Vineyard
ALCOHOL:	15.25%
PRODUCTION:	75 cases (750 ml)
ACCOLADES:	Double Gold - 2011 San Francisco Intl. Wine Competition
RETAIL:	\$35

WINEMAKER NOTES:

The nose has a nice balance of rich boysenberry aromas accented with notes of medium toasted oak. On the palate, there is excellent depth starting with good acidity that yields to a velvety texture. This texture is highlighted by flavors of dark stone fruits intertwined with subtle hints of sweet oak. The finish is clean and lingering with reserved, yet ample, tannin structure.

2009 VINTAGE NOTES:

2009 was an exciting vintage to manage in the vineyard to say the least. Winter brought Paso Robles its third consecutive year of drought, and the area also experience heavy frost in late-April. The summer was very typical, but things got complicated during the harvest when we received considerable rain in the second week of October. This halted the harvest for Villicana Winery. All this translates to a vintage with extremely low yields and highly concentrated flavors, tannins, and color. We kicked off the 2009 harvest on September 8th with our first picks of Viognier and Merlot (double gold medal winner), and ended the harvest on October 8th with our Syrah pick.

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