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\$34.00 per 750ml bottles.

Call the Winery at 1 (707) 963-9177
or Fax 1 (707) 963-8209[WINE TASTING NOTES](#)**Description**

Keenan Winery is located in Spring Mountain District, high in the Mayacamas mountain range above the town of Saint Helena. Fifteen acres of **Merlot** vines have been planted in the rocky soils surrounding the winery, and it is these vines that produce some of the finest Merlot in Napa. The vineyards are situated above the dense layer of fog that creeps up the Napa Valley most evenings. Consequently the vines warm up earlier in the morning and stay warm through the night. The combination of warm temperatures, steep hillside vine rows and gravelly soils promotes more stress on the vines leading to increased intensity in the finished wine.

The **2003 Keenan Merlot** is composed of seventy-three percent Keenan Estate Merlot. Twenty-two percent of the wine is Merlot fruit harvested from the Napa Carneros region. In addition, five percent Estate Cabernet Sauvignon has been added to the blend in order to add further complexity and structure. After hand harvesting, the grapes were de-stemmed, then inoculated with Montrachet yeast. Fermentation ranged from eight to fourteen days before pressing.

The '03 **Merlot** has been aged in thirty-three percent new French and American oak barrels for eighteen months. The resulting wine shows intense aromas of black cherry, blackberry, and cassis. Complex nuances of cocoa and coffee bean emerge as the wine opens up. This is a "big" Merlot that will age for many years to come.

Wilfred Wong
Cellarmaster, Beverages & more!

Tasted: September 13, 2006

92 Points

"Deep dark, brooding ruby color with a black streak; powerful, full-blown ripe fruit aromas with a suggestion of mountainous earth notes, a fine hit of sweet barrel accents, excellent depth and definition of fruit; medium to full bodied, tannic and driven with strong density and strength, finely structure for a big boy; dry, medium acidity, impressive balance; rich, youthful flavors of sun-ripened fruit with strong ties to the land, tempered with savory oak; excellent concentration of fruit; long finish, youthful aftertaste with a slightly fierce disposition."

Excerpt from Robert M. Parker, Jr.'s,
The Wine Advocate,
Issue # 162, December 26, 2005

"The dark ruby-colored, elegant 2003 Merlot is primarily from the estate vineyards, and includes 5% Cabernet Sauvignon in the blend. Offering hints of mocha intermixed with coffee bean, black cherry, earth, and herb characteristics..."

WINE DATA

Alcohol:	14.3%
Total Acidity:	0.610 grams/100mL
pH:	3.500
Residual Sugar:	Dry
Bottling Date:	18th of July 2005
Blend:	95% Merlot 5% Cabernet Sauvignon
Production:	3500 cases

AWARDS

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