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Call the Winery at 1 (707) 963-9177
or Fax 1 (707) 963-8209

[WINE TASTING NOTES](#)**WINE DATA**

Alcohol:	14.3%
Total Acidity:	0.600 grams/100mL
pH:	3.430
Residual Sugar:	Dry
Bottling Date:	18th of August 2003
Blend:	100% Merlot
Production:	3470

Description

Keenan Winery is located in Spring Mountain District, high in the Mayacamas mountain range above the town of Saint Helena. Seventeen acres of Merlot vines were planted in the gravelly 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 2001 Keenan Merlot is composed of sixty percent Keenan Estate fruit. Select Merlot vineyards from the Napa Carneros region were chosen to add complexity and to aid in softening the powerful Estate Merlot. After hand harvesting, the grapes were de-stemmed and inoculated with Montrachet yeast. Fermentation ranged from seven to twelve days before pressing.

The '01 Merlot has been aged in fifty percent new French and American oak barrels for twenty months. The wine remains one hundred percent Merlot -- no other varietals were added to the blend. The resulting wine shows ripe plum, blackberry, cocoa and spice aromas that are enhanced by a toasty oak background. Consumers can expect this Merlot to open up to a rich, velvety, full-bodied wine.

Excerpt from Robert M. Parker, Jr.'s,
The Wine Advocate, Issue # 157
91 Points (February 2005)

"...a deep ruby/purple-colored effort with a big, sweet, chocolatey nose intermixed with black cherry, curranty fruits, succulent mouthfeel, and admirable fruit purity in the finish."

AWARDS

Wine Advocate/Robert Parker
91 Points

2005 Orange County Fair Wine Competition
4 Star, Gold Medal (The 4 Star Gold Medal is awarded only to wines that receive a Gold Medal rating from all judges)

2005 StarWine International Wine Competition
Gold Medal

2005 San Francisco International Wine Competition
Gold Medal