



## Robert Keenan Winery

### 1999 Napa Valley Merlot

**T**long growing season and steady, high temperatures in September of 1999 helped create Merlot grapes of the highest quality. The grapes for the '99 Keenan Merlot were harvested primarily from the Keenan Estate on Spring Mountain; the remainder came from both valley floor and mountain regions within the Napa Valley. Keenan carefully chose this blend of fruit to create a full bodied, complex Merlot.

The 1999 Merlot has been aged in 50% new French and American oak barrels for 20 months. This wine remains 100% Merlot – no other varietals were added to the blend. The resulting wine shows intense plum, black cherry and blackberry aromas that are enhanced by a toasty oak background. Consumers can expect the wine to open up to a rich, velvety, full-bodied wine that pleases the palate.

#### Reviews:

2002 California State Fair: **Gold Medal**

2002 Orange County Fair: **Silver Medal**

*Wine & Spirits Magazine*: **88 Points**

*Wine Spectator*: **88 Points**

*"Smooth and mellow, this Merlot blends mountain fruit (46% from Keenan's Spring Mountain estate, 4% from Mount Veeder) with components from Carneros and Rutherford. It offers tight cherry and kirsch flavors on a creamy texture, an easy red to enjoy by the glass before dinner or with prime rib."*

- Wine & Spirits, August 2002

*"Defly balanced, with smoke, blackberry, black currant and herbal notes are ripe and concentrated, with firm tannin that carries though a lingering finish nicely accented by toasty oak. Drink now through 2007."*

- James Laube, *The Wine Spectator*, September 2002

#### Wine Data:

Alcohol: . . . . . 13.5%  
Total Acidity: . . . . . 0.62 grams/100 mL  
pH: . . . . . 3.43  
Residual Sugar: . . . . . Dry  
Bottling Date: . . . . . August 21, 2000  
Production: . . . . . 2,460 Cases  
Blend: . . . . . 100% Merlot