



ESTD 1872

LONG MEADOW RANCH  
WINERY

NAPA VALLEY

## 2012 MERLOT MAYACAMAS ESTATE NAPA VALLEY

**VINEYARD:** Estate Grown

**HARVEST DATE:** 9/27/12 – 10/5/12

**ALCOHOL:** 13.5 percent

**COOPERAGE:** 22% new oak, all French

**CASE PRODUCTION:** 247 cases

**FOOD AFFINITIES:** Perfect with LMR grass-fed Highland beef, with smoked baby back ribs, or with barbecued pulled pork sandwiches

### WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS:

"This marks the third time Long Meadow Ranch has shown off its Merlot with a varietal bottling. Immediately, the youthful deep garnet hue hints at the vibrancy and freshness of this young red wine. It's at once refined and simply pleasing. The nose suggests red berry aromas and cocoa powder. On the palate, the wine expands to plum, cherry, and a perfect balance of crisp acidity and sweet fruit extraction. The tannin backbone is subtle but ever-present to lend structure to the persistent finish, which extends the enjoyment of the last notes of chocolate, slight green peppercorn, sweetly toasted oak, and juicy cherry. Enjoy now."

— Ashley Heisey

### GROWING SEASON:

The third consecutive cool and late growing season of 2012 was perfect for Merlot. Our dry winter ended with moderate rainfall in March, giving us a long growing season and also led to richer flavor development. We opened the vine canopies to ensure sunlight, warmth and good air circulation around the grape clusters. The night-harvested grapes retained their enticing aromas and naturally pleasing acidity all the way to the bottle.

### LONG MEADOW RANCH:

Owned by Ted, Laddie, and Christopher Hall, LMR employs an integrated, organic farming system, using simple, sustainable methods. Each part of the Ranch contributes to the health of the whole. Vineyards and wine making, olive orchards and olive oil making, cattle and horse breeding all work together in complementary fashion, as do the egg-laying poultry flock and the organic vegetable gardens. All crops are certified organic by California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) and are grown without the use of herbicides, pesticides, or chemical fertilizers.

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