



2005 Merlot Crane Ranch Vineyard Napa Valley

Crane Brothers Napa Valley Wines are all estate grown, single vineyard, and very small production from the family owned Crane Ranch Vineyard. Third generation Napa Valley natives Michael and Robert Crane and winemaker Al Perry have made great wines together since the 2001 vintage. Located in The Oak Knoll District of the Napa Valley, the 9 acre Crane Ranch Vineyard is planted on bench land and hillside, above the valley floor. The unique microclimate of warm sunny days and cool breezy evenings, along with our custom hand farming, allow our Syrah, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, and Petit Verdot grapes to develop intense flavor, color, and aroma.

<i>Grape Sourcing</i>	Crane Ranch Vineyard, Oak Knoll Appellation
<i>Varietal Composition</i>	90% Merlot with 10% Cabernet Sauvignon
<i>Alcohol</i>	15%
<i>Winemaking</i>	Hand harvested in cool morning hours Fermented in small temperature controlled tanks Hand sorted & cold soaked for 48 hours
<i>Harvest Date</i>	October 13th
<i>Cooperage</i>	20 months of aging in French Oak barrels (40% new oak)
<i>Production</i>	140 Cases



Tasting Notes:

Lush aromas of raspberry, strawberry, tea, vanilla and hints of mint. Rich in the mouth with inviting cassis liqueur, plum, cola and mocha. Soft tannins meld perfectly with lush fruit and a long supple finish.

Vineyards:

The wine is 100% estate grown at our family owned Crane Ranch Vineyard in the Oak Knoll District of Napa Valley which is organically and sustainably farmed and managed by John Anthony Truchard's Vinewerkes custom farming company.

Winemaker::

Al Perry has been making Napa Valley Wines for over 25 years. Al Perry is co-owner/winemaker of Robert Biale/Hill Climber Vineyards founded in 1991.

Accolades:

Connoisseur's Guide 91 points / 2 puffs *April 2009*

Wine Enthusiast 90 points *June 2009*