

## DUCKHORN VINEYARDS



NAPA VALLEY

### **2006 Napa Valley Merlot** *Three Palms Vineyard*

#### **2006 Harvest Notes**

The 2006 growing season was marked by a very mild summer with a mid-July heat spike that accelerated ripening. Mild temperatures continued throughout the fall allowing for a moderately paced harvest. The long growing season brought complex and intense flavor and aroma development.

#### **Comments from the Winemaker**

Three Palms Vineyard is legendary in the world of California Merlot—and for good reason. A hot site, with free-draining soils, Three Palms consistently delivers focused red fruit flavors, balanced by an austere minerality, which contributes to elegant aging potential. The 2006 Three Palms Vineyard Merlot delivers all the vibrant fruit one would expect, with layers of red currant, raspberry and black cherry underscored by elements of piecrust, strawberry, caramel and wet stone. The tannins are dry and elegant, leading to a long, jammy finish.

#### **Varietal Content**

75% Merlot, 13% Cabernet Sauvignon  
7% Cabernet Franc, 5% Petit Verdot

#### **Harvest Information**

Appellation: Napa Valley  
Harvest Dates: September 14 – October 31, 2006  
Average Sugar at Harvest: 26.8° Brix

#### **Cooperage**

100% French oak château-style barrels (60 gallons)  
Barrel Aging: 18 Months  
Age of Barrels: 100% New

#### **Production/Technical Data**

Alcohol: 14.5%  
Titratable Acidity: 0.63 g/100ml  
pH: 3.49

Bottled: July 2008  
Released: April 2009