

# BRIDGEVIEW VINEYARDS

# OREGON CABERNET-MERLOT

## VINEYARD

Southern Oregon is achieving more and more notoriety with its ability to produce outstanding red wines like Cabernet, Merlot, and Syrah. The source for this wine is a small valley called the "Applegate Valley", which is a new sub-appellation within Oregon's Rogue Valley.

## HARVEST

The 2005 growing season started out with a typical bud break, and not too many frost nights. Bloom went well, giving us an average crop load. The early summer rains helped the canopy grow vigorously. July was hot, but August, September, and October were slightly cooler than normal. Nighttime temperatures were cool, preserving the natural acidity in the grapes, so that at harvest (which started October 25th for our Merlot, and November 2nd for our Cabernet Sauvignon) the acid/sugar ratios were perfect. This combined with a longer than normal hang time provided us with some of the best fruit we have seen in years.

## FERMENTATION AND AGING

The grapes are destemmed, crushed and then moved into large stainless steel tanks where the fermentation takes place. During this stage, the young wine is pumped gently over the floating skins 2-3 times daily. When the wine is dry, the skins and young wine are separated and some wine is moved into barrels, while the balance stays in stainless tanks. Prior to bottling, the oak aged and non-oak aged components are blended and the wine is bottled young with an emphasis on highlighting its fruit forward character.

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

This Bordeaux-style blend shows aromas of cherry and cloves with flavors that hint of plum, red raspberry and vanillin characters. This blend shows varietal texture and complexity.

Varietal:	51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 49% Merlot
Appellation:	100% Applegate Valley
Final pH:	3.58
Titrateable Acidity:	.55 g/100ml
Alcohol:	13%

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