



## 2008 SINGLE VINEYARD MERLOT

# TWOMEY

### BEN AND DAN'S NOTES:

Our 2008 Twomey Single Vineyard Merlot is a luscious wine of moderate alcohol that achieves a beautiful balance between ripeness and freshness. It has a garnet color with purple edges and an enticing nose of perfectly ripe, fresh black cherries, violets, nutmeg and dark chocolate. It has a bright attack and a satiny mouth-feel. The fresh cherry fruit returns on the palate and the wine is full bodied without being cloying. The finish is vibrant with notes of dark chocolate and enough tannic grip to ensure good cellaring. This beautiful Merlot will continue to give drinking pleasure through 2023, with proper cellaring.

### VINEYARD:

Grapes for Twomey Merlot come exclusively from our Soda Canyon Ranch in southeastern Napa Valley. This vineyard's rolling hills of volcanic soils are tightly planted with French Merlot clones, selected for their low yield of small, intensely flavored berries. In this mild climate, tempered by cool breezes and morning fog, Merlot ripens slowly and develops rich black-fruit character and extraordinary complexity.

### VINTAGE DESCRIPTION:

The 2008 vintage featured a dry spring with cool bloom-time conditions, which carried into a mild summer with a few heat spikes in July, August and early September. Harvest was about nine days earlier than normal due to accelerated ripening from the warm temperatures but yielded well-developed fruit with a high concentration of flavors. We started picking on September 1st and concluded harvest on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

**HARVEST DATES:** *September 1 – 27, 2008*

**BARRELS:** *13 months in 39% new, 23% once-used, 38% older French oak*

**BARREL AGING:** *13 months in barrel*

**COMPOSITION:** *92% Merlot, 8% Cabernet Franc*

**ALCOHOL:** *13.7%*

**APPELLATION:** *Napa Valley*

**RELEASE DATE:** *September 29, 2012*

**BOTTLE SIZES:** *750 ml, 1.5 L magnum, 3 L double magnum, 6 L imperial*

