

# WATERSTONE

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## 2010 MERLOT NAPA VALLEY

### Vintage

*Mother Nature framed the 2010 growing season with above-average precipitation in Napa Valley, with Spring rains ending in May and resuming in late October. The season was slightly cooler than normal, testing the skills of vineyard managers as they sought to speed up the ripening process. The harvest season was brought to a quick close in late October by an advancing Pacific storm system. Overall, tonnage was off by as much as 20% but vintners were pleased with the quality of the crop.*

### Vineyards

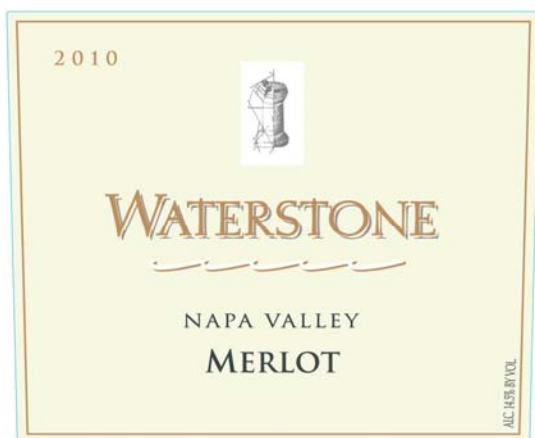
*The backbone of this Merlot is derived from the Truchard Vineyard in Carneros, where half the grapes are sourced from a relatively cool region. The balance of fruit is sourced from Chiles Valley, adding layers of rich fruit to the palate. The small berry clusters and intense fruit from low-yielding vines create a wine with full flavor and longevity.*

### Vinification

*Vineyards were hand-picked at the peak of maturity. Following harvest, the grapes were gently crushed and fermented. The wines were then aged in small French oak barrels with extended lees contact for twenty-four months. Only 35% new barrels were used to maintain maximum fruit flavors with just a hint of toasty oak.*


### Tasting Notes

*Sweet cherry, ripe plum, hints of vanilla and overtones of anise and aged leather appear in the aroma. On the palate, this generous wine features cherry, plum and blackberry fruit with supple tannins and a lingering finish.*



### Technical Data:

Varietal Composition	100% Merlot
Appellation	Napa Valley
Alcohol	15.1%
TA	0.62g/100ml
pH	3.60
Oak Aging	24 months
Oak Cooperage	French oak, 35% new
Bottling Date	January 23, 2013
Production	1232 cases

  
Philip Zorn, Winemaker