



HILL FAMILY
E S T A T E



2006 “Beau Terre Vineyard” Merlot

Production: 456 cases

Composition: 76% Merlot, 23% Cabernet Sauvignon, 1% Syrah

Vineyards: 90% Beau Terre and 10% Baker

Appellations: Oak Knoll and Atlas Peak

Cooperage: 16 months in 100% French oak barrels, (40% new barrels)

Alcohol: 15.2% alc, 3.75 pH, 0.58 TA

Release date: December 9, 2009

Release price: \$30.00

Winemaker's Comments:

This 2006 Hill Family Merlot combines the best of the Hill Family's Beau Terre Vineyard in the Oak Knoll District, with its plush black cherry and raspberry fruit, and the Beau Terre Atlas Peak Cabernet with its fine classic sage and brambly character. All vineyards are under the control of Hill Family Estate, offering the chance to make the tough but necessary decisions about viticulture that make for the best wines. 2006 was a cool year with hot spells, making a muscular Merlot that has a big structure. We actually added Cabernet to it for the softer fruit! After 18 months in barrel, the wine finally evolved enough to bottle.

Winemaker Alison Doran's Tasting notes:

Nose: Raspberry and Boysenberry aromas with darker jammy fruit in the back.
Palate: Milk chocolate and raspberry melt over the palate and the wine still seems young and vigorous, improving over several hours when open. Decanting this beauty is highly recommended!