

BARNETT VINEYARDS  
*Spring Mountain District*  
NAPA VALLEY

**MERLOT**  
**Spring Mountain District**  
**2007**

<b>Harvest Date:</b>	October 11 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> , 2007
<b>Grape Source:</b>	Spring Mountain District
<b>Blend:</b>	89% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Franc
<b>Aging:</b>	18 months in French Oak Barrels 60% new and 40% once used
<b>Alcohol:</b>	14.8%
<b>Total Production:</b>	635 Cases
<b>Release Date:</b>	September 2009
<b>Winemaker:</b>	David Tate

**Vintage Notes:** Sourced from neighboring vineyards, our Spring Mountain Merlot captures the essence of mountain fruit. In 2007 the weather was warmer, allowing us to pick the Merlot earlier than normal. Unlike cooler years, this wonderfully warm year allowed brighter fruit flavors to complement the typically minerality in this wine. The generous amount of Cabernet Franc helped pull in some darker flavors and give the wine some backbone

**Winemaker Notes:** A majority of grapes for this wine came from mountain-terraced vines planted meter by meter that are head trained. This decreases the yield per vine and increases the competition between them resulting in more concentrated flavors. An average of 2-3 days of cold soaking aided in color and complex flavor extraction. This wine was aged for 18 months in small French oak barrels (approximately 60%).

**Tasting Notes:** The wine has a deep purple core and medium purple rim. Fresh black raspberry and white pepper spice are immediate on the nose. Violets and vanilla bean tones are also popping out of the glass. The wine is plush on the mid palette with black cherry, earl gray tea and clove/nutmeg showing. The tannins are soft and fresh acid shows itself slowly. The wine is beautiful in its youth with big fruit, but will develop more mineral complexity over the next 5-6 years (2009-2015).