

2006 WHITE MERITAGE Livermore Valley



MURRIETA'S WELL

VINEYARDS

Our 92-acre estate vineyard was first planted in 1884 with Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon cuttings that French grape grower, Louis Mel, brought to Livermore from Chateau d' Yquem in Bordeaux. The vineyards are planted in a combination of Livermore gravel (rocky soil with excellent drainage) in the flatlands, and a slightly richer gravel soil on the sloping hillside. All of the vineyards are sustainably farmed and hand-harvested in the early morning hours.

WINE STYLE

The Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon were barrel fermented separately and aged sur lie for 16 months. During the aging, batonnage was performed monthly. Batonnage is the stirring of the barrels to re-suspend the lees. This process adds creaminess and a rich, full mouth feel to the wine. Following aging, the winemaker made a final blend to achieve a perfect balance between the Sauvignon Blanc's crispness and the Semillon's creamier structure. At least 60% of the wine was finished with malo-lactic fermentation.

FLAVOR PROFILE

Notes of honeysuckle, butterscotch and melon can be found on the nose. On the palate, this wine delivers ripe melon, honey and vanilla with well integrated oak. The 2006 vintage has a rich mouth feel with medium acidity and a long, mellow finish.

VARIETALS

65% Sauvignon Blanc, 35% Semillon

AGING

The Sauvignon Blanc was barrel fermented in a combination of French and Eastern European oak and aged for 16 months. The Semillon was barrel-fermented in a combination of French and Eastern European oak and aged for 15 months.

ALCOHOL	14.0%
TOTAL ACIDITY	0.75g/100ml
pH	3.41
RESIDUAL SUGAR	Dry

THE WINERY

Murrieta's Well is named after the legendary gold rush-era desperado, Joaquin Murrieta, who camped by the artesian well on the property on his way to Mexico to sell wild horses. Previously owned by Louis Mel, this historic property was brought back to life in 1990 by viticulturalist Phil Wente and winemaker Sergio Traverso.



*Unforgettable Estate
Blends from California's
Livermore Valley*

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