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# HAYES

## RANCH

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### 2004 Merlot



<b>Appellation:</b>	Central Coast 87% Arroyo Seco, Monterey 13% Livermore Valley, San Francisco Bay
<b>Varietal Content:</b>	87% Merlot, 7% Cabernet Sauvignon, 5% Barbera, 1% Zinfandel
<b>Alcohol:</b>	13.5%
<b>Ph</b>	3.50
<b>Total Acidity:</b>	0.56 g/100ml
<b>Residual Sugar:</b>	0.40
<b>Wine Maker:</b>	Brad Buehler

Arroyo Seco is within the Monterey appellation with steep canyon topography that provides a long cool growing season great for growing high-quality Merlot. This 2004 Merlot comes from three different mesoclimate vineyards throughout the Arroyo Seco appellation, allowing the wine to highlight an incredible blend of the area's grapes.

Each vineyard was harvested separately and processed in the "rack and return" style, which is the process of draining all of the free-run juice off the cap and then returning the free-run juice back over the top. This method increases the color and tannin extractions and improves mouth-feel through the integration of oxygen. Each blend was aged separately, with part in neutral French and American oak barrels.

This 2004 Merlot has aromas of herbal tea and blackberry that are accentuated by hints of spice and perfume. The wine is full bodied with a smooth mid-palate that showcases flavors of cherry and truffles, alongside tobacco undertones. It is ideal with meats, assorted cheeses and even fresh salads.

The Hayes family was a true California ranching family whose livelihood depended on the land. Our winemaker carries on the Hayes family tradition by crafting bright, delicious wines from premier California vineyards. We created these wines with a rancher's pride, from excellent quality grapes for your enjoyment.

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CALIFORNIA WINES WITH A WESTERN SPIRIT

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5565 Tesla Road | Livermore | CA | 94550 | 925.456.2300 tel | 925.456.2301 fax