



Fratelli Perata Winery

2002 MERLOT WINECLUB SPECIAL SELECTION

Making wine from hillside vineyards is always more interesting and more challenging than fruit coming from the flatlands. Drinking the wines made from hills is more interesting, too. Here we have not only a hillside Merlot, but also one of the newer clones to arrive in California from France. Selected especially for the Wine Club, there's nothing ordinary about this wine. It will certainly get your attention.

Harvested	September 12, 2002
Brix	26.5
pH	3.52
TA	6.25 g/L
Pressed to new American oak	September 24, 2002
Alcohol	13.5
Bottled	August 15, 2005
Case production	46

You can see this is a very limited production. We have here the very best of the Merlot produced in 2002. Rich ripe fruit is perfectly balanced with new American oak (Did you get a chance to sniff the brand new barrels when they arrived?). Long barrel aging has integrated the elements of fruit, oak, acid, and tannin. This wine arrives ready to drink, but will lay down for many years yet.

Pair this wine with the usual suspects: sautéed mushrooms, Parmigiano, or the Pork Chops with Cherried Vegetables.