



MERITAGE

2007 MERITAGE – *Sonoma County*

WINE & SPIRITS
August 2011

92 Points - “**Best Buy!**”- The wine has richness without excessive sweetness, the dark fruit balanced by cedary herb scents and intense tannins that leave a mineral brand. Decant it to enjoy with grilled sirloin.

CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE
TO CALIFORNIA WINE
April 2011

87 Points - ☼ **One Star** - Starting out in the nose with a mélange of well-ripened dark fruits and following on with like-minded flavors...hints variously at blackberries, cherries, currants and plums.

2003 MERITAGE – *Sonoma County*

CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE
TO CALIFORNIA WINE
March 2007

90 Points - ☼ **One Puff** - The near-even mix of the top two varietals in the blend gives this wine both succulence and admirable depth. Notes of black cherries, currants, briar and oak join in the fairly rich mix, and that same ripe, layered personality shows up in the mouth as well. The wine enters with Merlot’s supple texture but then takes on the hard, grippy astringency of Cabernet at the back.

2002 MERITAGE – *Sonoma County*

CONNOISSEURS’ GUIDE
TO CALIFORNIA WINE
April 2006

89 Points - ☼ **One Puff** - Very attractive in a softer, rounder style as befits its high percentage of Merlot, this medium-full-bodied bottling shows equally well on the palate as it does in its inviting aromas and finds its rounded mouthfeel nicely firmed up by a streak of solidifying tannin. Its cherry and currant character makes it one to consider even now, but its finishing astringency promises that it will age well for several years.