

# 2009 “Ranch Collection” Merlot – North Coast

## History

In 1861 Lake County was created from parts of Napa and Mendocino counties and has since been well known as a farming community.

In the 1870s vineyards were planted and by the early 1900s the area was already earning its reputation for producing “**World’s greatest wines**”. Prohibition forced an end to the Lake County wine production in 1920; most of the vineyards were removed and replaced with walnut and pear orchards.

The comeback of the wine industry began in the 1960s when a few growers rediscovered the area’s grape growing potential and once again began planting vineyards. Lake County now has more than 8,800 acres of planted vineyards, which is a significant increase from less than 100 acres they had planted in 1965. This area has also seen the recent establishment of several American Viticultural areas such as **High Valley** and Red Hills-Lake County. We are proud to say that Lake County contains many vineyards that support the California Wine Institute’s Code of Sustainable farming practices

## Winemaking Notes

The grapes used to produce our 2009 Shannon Ridge North Coast Merlot were harvested from different blocks in Lake and Mendocino Counties, California. Deep color and flavors were achieved with gentle handling, controlled fermentation. Aged in French and American oak to help create a balanced soft mouthfeel.

## Tasting Notes

**Color:** Deep Garnet

**Aroma:** Blackberry, Plum, Vanilla, Herb

**Flavor:** Berry, Cherry, Violets

**Texture:** Well balanced with a lush mouthfeel

## Technical Data

---

<b>Alcohol:</b>	13.8%
<b>Total Acidity:</b>	.59
<b>pH:</b>	3.53
<b>Residual Sugar:</b>	.50
<b>Composition/Blend:</b>	85% Merlot, 9% Cabernet Sauvignon, 6% Barbera
<b>Appellation:</b>	North Coast
<b>Barrels:</b>	French and American
<b>Time in Barrels:</b>	16 Months
<b>Cases Produced:</b>	7,500

---

**Suggested Retail:** \$19.00

**Stock#:** SN09ME

UPC #857680001366

