

WINES OF THE MONTH
ARTISAN SERIES



Lago di Merlo Vineyards and Winery
2002 Ca'Bella Dry Creek Valley Red

A blend of various red varietals from estate vineyards in the Dry Creek Valley of Sonoma County, this luscious wine is winemaker Harry Merlo's tribute to Italian style.

Harry Merlo's Notes

This beautifully balanced red wine strives to emulate the longstanding winemaking traditions of our family remaining in Italy. The varietals used to produce this wine are all typically found in the Dry Creek area and have been blended in a fashion that best gives tribute to Italian-style red wine. It is our hope that after trying this wine, you will understand our passion for this blend. (Alcohol 13.5%, Total acidity .73, pH 3.60)

Anna Maria's Notes

Harry Merlo (no relation whatsoever to Merlot) is not telling what grapes are in this blend and will only say that they are typical of the Dry Creek. Zinfandel is the first varietal that comes to mind when we think of Dry Creek, so we can assume that there's at least some of it in the blend. Other than Zinfandel, see which other varieties you can sniff out of this fruity, spicy wine, which is rich in flavor and aroma and balanced with fine tannins and acid. Who ever said that premium reds had to be aged in oak barrels. This one wasn't, and it's awesome.

Lago di Merlo Vineyards and Winery
2003 Ca'Bella Sauvignon Blanc

The grapes for this wine are 100% Sauvignon Blanc and were grown in various appellations on California's North Coast. The winemaker is Harry Merlo Jr.

Harry Merlo's Notes

"Tropical" is the word that comes to mind with this wine. Strong pineapple and guava character rise from the glass, while supple melon and ruby grapefruit dance on your palate. All of the best characteristics of Sauvignon Blanc are present in this wine. (Alcohol 13.5%, Total acidity 0.65, pH 3.46)

Anna Maria's Notes

When Harry says that this wine shows all of the best characteristics of Sauvignon Blanc, he means that the nose is packed with perfume, and along with its crisp grapefruit flavors, the wine is mellow with ripe pineapple and guava as some Sauvignon Blanc can be. Serve this wine when invisible insects buzz in the quiet summer heat. It'll complement all lighter summer foods.

PICK & CHOOSE

JUST RED? JUST WHITE? JUST CALIFORNIAN? JUST ITALIAN? HOW ABOUT A COMBINATION?

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Alternate CA & IT Winemaker Series \$59.50/\$62/month

ITALIAN WINES

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You can also receive more than two bottles per month. California sales tax is included. Shipping is extra.

GREAT WINES OF CALIFORNIA ARTISAN SERIES

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To reorder wines from the Wine-maker Series, call or email for prices.

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WINES OF THE MONTH
WINEMAKER SERIES



Lago di Merlo Vineyards and Winery
2003 Dry Creek Valley Barbera

This wine is 100% Barbera from estate vineyards in the Dry Creek Valley. Wine-maker Harry Merlot has spared the wine from pronounced oak flavors and instead aged it in neutral oak barrels so that its fruit flavors take center stage.

Harry Merlo's Notes

This wine marks our first attempt to produce a true northern Piemonte-style wine. It's deep garnet color clings to the side of the glass, all the while filling your nose with dense saucy fruit aromas of Bing cherries and raspberries. Only neutral oak was used in the aging process, so that no characteristics would be stripped from this fruit bomb of a red wine. Italian cuisine, lamb, or veal with rosemary infused flavors pair well with this wine. The acidity helps cleanse the palate of lingering meat fats. (Alcohol 14.9%, Total acidity 0.86, pH 3.38)

Anna Maria's Notes

Harry says that he hit everything just right with this Barbera. It's got rich fruit on the nose and the palate with just the right amount of acid and tannins. At almost 15% alcohol, the wine is a mouthful, but Barbara has a lot of natural acidity which balances out the wine. Serve at room temperature with grilled meats, poultry, and summer pastas.



Lago di Merlo Vineyards and Winery
2003 Dry Creek Valley Syrah

This wine is 100% Syrah from estate vineyards in the Dry Creek Valley. Wine-maker Harry Merlo points out that the wine is a blend of two different Syrah clone, which add complexity to the wine.

Harry Merlo's Notes

This wine is bold and jammy with a defined tannin structure and flavors of ripe plum with a smoky cedar box finish. Two different clones of Syrah went into this 100% Sonoma County, Dry Creek Valley hillside wine to make it unique and complex. (Alcohol 14.6%, Total acidity 0.75%, pH 3.62)

Anna Maria's Notes

Syrah is another speciality of the Dry Creek, and you'll understand why after you taste this jammy, full-bodied wine. Serve at cool room temperature for a late evening meal.

ALL WINES ARE SOLD IN CALIFORNIA, AND TITLE PASSES TO THE BUYER IN CALIFORNIA. We make no representation as to the rights of anyone to import wine into any state outside of California. The buyer is solely responsible for shipment of wines. By placing an order, you authorize us to act on your behalf to engage a common carrier to deliver your order where you want it delivered. WINES MAY BE SOLD AND DELIVERED ONLY TO PERSONS WHO ARE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD. IN PLACING YOUR ORDER, YOU REPRESENT TO US THAT YOU ARE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD, AND THE PERSON TO WHOM YOUR WINE WILL BE DELIVERED IS ALSO AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD. When your alcoholic beverages are delivered, the person receiving delivery will be required to show identification proving that he or she is at least 21 years old.

GREAT WINES OF CALIFORNIA WINEMAKER SERIES