



**2005 MERLOT
DAKINE VINEYARD
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY**

DaKine Vineyard, is nestled at the bottom of an east-facing hill on Westside Road in Healdsburg. The vineyard's original owner obtained budwood from the "3 Palms" Merlot vineyard in Napa Valley and planted 3 acres on AXR1 rootstock in 1988. In addition, $\frac{3}{4}$ acre of Malbec was established. In 1995 three more acres of Chardonnay (on 5C rootstock) were budded over to Merlot (unknown clone). In 2005, Oded bought the property from Mondavi/Arrowood and began farming the grapes. This is the first vintage Longboard made from these grapes.

"DaKine" (pronounced Dah-kine) comes from the Pidgin Hawaiian language and is often used to describe a great event. Unlike most Merlots destined to be blended into other wines, we decided this vineyard makes a wine that is superb by itself. The 2005 DaKine Merlot is lush with vanilla and blueberry aromas that lead to a generous mid-palate of full and sweet tannins, soy and dark chocolate flavors. The finish is long and slightly spicy, we believe it will age well in the next 7 years.

Composition:	95.9 % Merlot, 3.1% Malbec, 1% Cabernet Sauvignon
Harvest Date:	October 25, 2005
Fermentation:	Open top with manual punch-down and closed-top stainless tanks.
Barrel ageing:	13 months in oak barrels 40% new
Bottling Date:	November 2006
Production:	1450 cases produced
Suggested Retail:	\$ 24.00
Analysis:	14.6% Alcohol pH 3.7 Acidity 0.62 g/100ml
Suggested Retail:	\$ 24.00 per bottle