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## 2007 Merlot Russian River Valley

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### **The Vineyards:**

Cecil De Loach has been farming the Russian River Valley for over 30 years and was among a small group of vintners that helped define this region as one of America's premier growing regions. This 2007 Merlot was made from 18-year-old vines grown at Cecil's Los Amigos Ranch, a vineyard set in the Chalk Hill district of the Russian River Valley.

### **The Winemaking:**

This Merlot was fermented in small, open-top fermentors, and punched down by hand 2 to 3 times per day. It was then aged for 12 months in both European and American Oak barrels.

### **The Wine:**

Attractive aromas of vanilla, cinnamon and cherry lead to smooth flavors of blackberry and cherry framed by a subtle maple nuance. The elegant finish shows mild tannins and balanced acidity, which makes it an excellent candidate for cellar aging.

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### **Technical Information:**

**Harvested:** September 24<sup>th</sup> - October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007

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**Alcohol %:** 14.5    **pH:** 3.42    **Total Acidity:** .69    **Case Production:** 488

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**Release Date:** Spring 2009

**Suggested Retail Price:** \$24

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Winemaker: Jason De Loach

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