

SANDHILL



MERLOT 2007

SANDHILL ESTATE VINEYARD

GROWING CONDITIONS

The 2007 growing season began with a typical spring: the vines showed their first buds by early May. Summer was more temperate than usual, which had little effect on whites, but for reds, meant that flavours were not developing at the usual rate.

To allow proper ripening, harvest was delayed a few days into mid-September. Subsequent periods of cool, rainy weather further extended the harvesting. Although final yields were 5-10% less than forecasted, the smaller crop promises to produce excellent quality wines with full body and ripe concentrated flavours.

Dry and warm, the fall was a winegrower and winemaker's dream. Through October, frost was a minimal threat and foraging wildlife stayed out of the vineyards. The resulting harvest produced exceptional whites and reds with power and finesse.

WINEMAKING

- Loose crush, gentle but complete extraction of the fruit
- 4 day cold soak
- Warm fermentation
- Aged 15 months in French and American oak.

FLAVOUR PROFILE

- Garnet colour with a fruit-forward bouquet of blue plum, cherry, blueberry and blackberry with just a touch of spice.
- This medium-bodied Merlot has soft yet drying tannins and flavours of red berries, cherries and spicy oak.
- Juicy red berries and cherries linger on the finish.
- Pairs well with duck breast and red wine cherry reduction, mushroom lasagna, grilled steak and sautéed mushrooms, prime rib and mild cheddar and crusty bread.

WINEMAKER NOTES

"Our goal is a well structured Merlot with great finesse. This is achieved through a great vineyard with great grapes and gentle handling of the fruit during the winemaking process. We want you to taste the Sandhill Estate Vineyard in the glass."

- Howard Soon, Winemaker

WINE ANALYSIS

Alcohol	14.9%
Dryness Code	0
Sugar	0g/litre
TA	5.8g/litre
Release Date	Aug 2008
CSPC	576751
PID	1044484

BC Retail: \$19.99

CRITICAL ACCLAIM 2006 VINTAGE

SILVER
2008 Canadian Wine Awards
SILVER
2007 Okanagan Fall Wine Festival



A TRUE EXPRESSION OF THE VINEYARD

WWW.SANDHILLWINES.CA
1125 RICHTER STREET KELOWNA, BC CANADA V1Y 2K6 T 250-762-3332 F 250-762-2999
1000-1200 WEST 73RD AVENUE VANCOUVER, BC CANADA V6P 6G5 T 604-267-9463 F 604-264-6810
VQA OKANAGAN VALLEY VQA