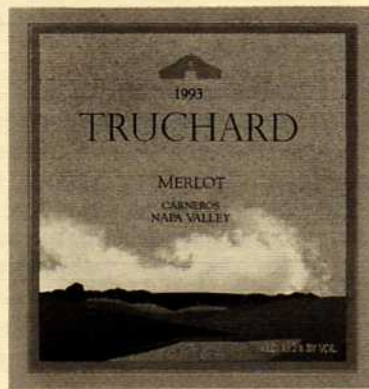


**1993 MERLOT
New Releases**



1. **1993 Truchard**, Carneros, Napa Valley (\$20) – Medium to medium-dark ruby color; attractive, spicy, slightly plummy and minty, green olive, berry fruit aroma which developed with airing; medium-full to full body; rich, velvety, slightly lush, spicy, moderately concentrated, ripe black cherry fruit flavors; medium-full tannin; woody finish; lingering aftertaste. Superior quality. Very approachable and enjoyable to drink now though should continue to develop with a few more years of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *13.2% alcohol; 0.62 TA; 3.50 pH; 1,938 cases; blended with 18% Cabernet Franc; released February 1996.* (Group Score: 16.1 of 20 points, 2 of 10 first-place votes/2 second/3 thirds; My Score: 17 [90 of 100 points], second place)

2. **1993 Gary Farrell**, "Ladi's Vineyard," Sonoma County (\$20) – Medium to medium-dark ruby; attractive, rich, spicy, green olive, black cherry aroma with overtones of vanilla and notes of tar and tobacco; medium-full body; rich, cedary, herbal, ripe currant flavors; well balanced; lingering aftertaste. Superior quality. Could use another year or two of bottle aging. Very highly recommended. *13.4% alcohol; 0.66 TA; 3.49 pH; 950 cases; blended with 16% Cabernet Sauvignon; released March 1996.* (Group Score: 16.1, 2/1/2; My Score: 17 [91/100], first place)

3. **1993 Rombauer Vineyards**, Napa Valley (\$23.50) – Medium to medium-dark ruby; attractive, rich, spicy, ripe black cherry aroma with overtones of vanilla; medium-full body; rich, supple, ripe black cherry flavors; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Above-average to superior quality. Very enjoyable to drink now. Very highly recommended. *13.6% alcohol; 0.63 TA; 3.44 pH; 4,000 cases; blended with 15% Cabernet Franc; released October 1995.* (Group Score: 16.0, 2/2/3; My Score: 17 [90/100], third place)

4. **1993 St. Clement**, Napa Valley (\$21) – Medium to medium-dark ruby; pleasant, somewhat subdued, herbal, cedary, blackberry, cherry fruit aroma; medium-full body; forward, supple, soft, plummy, somewhat lush, ripe grape flavors; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Above-average to superior quality. This wine shows a lot of richness and is enjoyable to drink now. Highly recommended. *12.8% alcohol; TA and pH not disclosed; 3,000 cases; blended with 20% Cabernet Sauvignon and 5% Cabernet Franc; released February 1996.* (Group Score: 16.0, 1/1/1; My Score: 16.5 [86/100], fifth place)

5. **1993 Jade Mountain**, Napa Valley (\$25) – Medium to medium-dark ruby; attractive, fragrant, spicy, berry fruit

aroma; full body; rich, concentrated, plummy, slightly jammy, very ripe currant flavors with a note of tobacco; full tannin; rough finish; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Highly recommended. *13.7% alcohol; 0.58 TA; 3.70 pH; 1,000 cases; blended with 12% Cabernet Sauvignon; released October 1995.* (Group Score: 15.7, 1/0/1; My Score: 16.5 [85/100], eighth place)

6. **1993 Fisher Vineyards**, "RCF Vineyard," Napa Valley (\$26) – Medium to medium-dark ruby; attractive, rich, floral, intense, slightly plummy, spicy, cedary, ripe berry fruit aroma; medium-full body; big, rich, slightly plummy, cedary, ripe currant flavors; full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Deserves some bottle aging. Highly recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 0.61 TA; 3.35 pH; 694 cases; blended with 7% Cabernet Franc; released November 1995.* (Group Score: 15.7, 0/1/0; My Score: 16.5 [85/100], ninth place)

7. **1993 Chateau Ste. Michelle**, "Cold Creek Vineyard," Columbia Valley, Washington (\$28) – Medium-dark ruby; attractive, rich, spicy, slightly plummy, ripe berry fruit aroma with overtones of vanilla; medium-full to full body; lean, tight, earthy, herbal, ripe black cherry fruit, green olive flavors; medium-full to full tannin; slightly tart and rough on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Could use a few more years of bottle aging. Highly recommended. *13% alcohol; 0.62 TA; 3.50 pH; 1,200 cases; 100% Merlot; released September 1995.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/0/0; My Score: 16.5 [87/100], fourth place)

8. **1993 Kenwood**, "Massara," Sonoma Valley (\$18) – Medium-dark ruby; attractive, rich, cedary, plummy, ripe black cherry fruit aroma with hints of tobacco, dill, and vanilla; full body; rich, supple, moderately concentrated, earthy, ripe black cherry flavors; medium-full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Rich and enjoyable to drink now. Highly recommended. *13.6% alcohol; 0.56 TA; 3.37 pH; 1,450 cases; 100% Merlot; released October 1995.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/1/0; My Score: 16.5 [86/100], sixth place)

9. **1993 Chateau Ste. Michelle**, "Canoe Ridge, Estate Vineyard," Columbia Valley, Washington (\$30) – Medium-dark ruby; attractive, rich, spicy, slightly stemmy, ripe berry fruit aroma with overtones of vanilla and which developed with airing; medium-full to full body; lean, tight, rough, earthy, cedary, berry fruit flavors; medium-full to full tannin; slightly tart on the finish; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Needs another year or two of bottle aging. Highly recommended. *13% alcohol; 0.63 TA; 3.51 pH; 1,200 cases; blended with 10% Cabernet Sauvignon; released September 1995.* (Group Score: 15.6, 0/0/0; My Score: 16.5 [86/100], seventh place)

10. **1993 Columbia**, "Milestone, Red Hollow Vineyard," Yakima Valley, Washington (\$20) – Medium ruby; attractive, earthy, slightly toasty, berry fruit aroma with woody, herbal overtones; medium-full to full body; slightly rich, tight, herbal, cherry fruit, green olive flavors with a hint of citrus; medium-full to full tannin; lingering aftertaste. Above-average quality. Recommended. *13.5% alcohol; 0.56 TA; 3.50 pH; 2,350 cases; blended with 18% Cabernet Franc; released November 1995.* (Group Score: 15.6, 2/0/0; My Score: 16 [84/100], tenth place)

11. **1993 Robert Mondavi**, Napa Valley (\$19) – Medium-dark ruby; assertive, cedary, earthy, herbaceous aroma with notes of pencil shavings; full body; big, cedary, toast, high-