

# RED BICYCLETTE

Red Bicyclette 2009 Merlot

## Wine Description

The 2009 Red Bicyclette® Merlot showcases flavors of fresh black fruit and aromas of autumn leaves with a smooth, medium-full bodied mid-palate.

## Harvest Notes

A dry summer combined with a longer growing season than usual produced grapes of exceptional quality. Budbreak occurred in early spring which was initially wet and cool, but temperatures soon returned to normal levels by April. Flowering began in early June and the summer months remained dry. Harvest (September) brought mildly warm temperatures during the day with cool nights. The longer than usual growing season allowed the berries to ripen slowly and evenly with little threat of disease. Though the crop was smaller than usual, the resulting wines are showing exceptional quality with elegant structure, excellent concentration of flavors and good balance of alcohol, acidity and tannins.

## Winemaking Notes

Our 2009 Red Bicyclette Merlot was sourced from the Languedoc Roussillon region in Southern France. The 2009 Merlot grapes were destemmed and fermented in upright stainless steel tanks at moderate temperatures (25° C or 77° F). Following malolactic fermentation, the components were then blended, filtered, and cold-stabilized for bottling.

## Finished Wine

**Varietal Content:** 100% Merlot

**Varietal Origin:** IGT Oc, France

**Titratable Acidity:** 0.52 g/100ml

**pH:** 3.60

**Alcohol Level:** 13.23%

**Residual Sugar:** 0.38 g/100ml