

Appellation
SAN ANTONIO VALLEY

Vineyards
LOCKWOOD OAKS VINEYARD

Blend
54% CABERNET SAUVIGNON
5% MALBEC
13.6% CABERNET FRANC
13.6% MERLOT
13.8% PETIT VERDOT

Aging
14 MONTHS IN
FRENCH & AMERICAN
OAK BARRELS, 40% NEW

Alcohol
14.7%

Bottled
March 29, 2012

Production
661 Cases

Winemaker
ANNETTE HOFFDANZER

Suggested Retail Price
\$ 36

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*Cima Collina Tasting Room
In the "Old Del Monte Milk Barn"
19-A East Carmel Valley Road
Carmel Valley, California 93924
831-620-0645*

Open Daily

Cima Collina

2010

MERITAGE

Monterey County is easy to understand. The further north you are, the cooler the climate. Head south and you find progressively warmer temperatures. Our 2010 Meritage was grown in the Lockwood Oaks Vineyard, owned and managed by the fabulous Joyce Yates, in the southernmost reaches of Monterey County in the "San Antonio Valley" AVA. She grafted over some of her Cabernet Sauvignon at our request to produce the Petit Verdot, Malbec and Merlot in this blend. The rocky soil, southfacing aspect and hot daytime/cool nighttime temperatures assure wonderful ripe flavors with less astringency than typically associated with Bordeaux varietals. This is the third Meritage we have produced from this vineyard.

We harvested the Cabernet Sauvignon, Cabernet Franc and Malbec on October 20, 2010 and the remaining grapes on October 30, 2010. In the winery we sorted the bunches to assure only the best and most consistently ripe bunches made their way into the wine and finally aged the blend in French & American oak barrels for 14 months.

The result is a rich, dark wine that is luscious in character. Black currant, spice, chocolate and cocoa notes rise up in the aromas. The flavors are infused with blackberry fruit, more black currant, cocoa and mocha, with a touch of herbal and spice characters. The wine is rich, the finish long.

Recommended food pairings: braised short ribs, steak au poivre or porcini & sun-dried tomato pizza.