



## MERRIAM VINEYARDS AT A GLANCE

The Merriam Vineyards Winery and Tasting room offers an east meets west experience in the melting pot of three major California appellations (Russian River Valley, Dry Creek Valley, and Alexander Valley). The tasting room invites visitors to cross cultures, as they taste California-crafted Bordeaux-style wines in a tasting room designed to reflect the comfort and warmth of a New England-style home.

### A Cultural Blend – A Brief History of Merriam Vineyards

- Peter and Diana Merriam first envisioned a French-style winery in the United States during their honeymoon in France, where they were struck by the rich culture of food and wine and the seamless quality between life and work among French vigneron.
- After more than a five-year search for the perfect vineyard with pedigree, they purchased Windacre in 2000 and began blending French-style wines in the Russian River Valley.
- As of March 2009, Merriam Vineyards is proud to introduce their new winery and tasting room on the warmest edge of the Russian River Valley, where visitors are invited to cross cultures, as they taste California-crafted Bordeaux-style wines in a tasting room designed to reflect the comfort and warmth of a New England-style home.

### Warmest Edge of the Russian River Valley

- Windacre lies in the warmest corner of the appellation, where neighboring wineries are world-renowned for zinfandel, syrah, petite sirah, and other sturdy red wine varieties. A climate strikingly similar to the Bordeaux region in France makes Windacre perfectly suited to grow exquisite merlot and other Bordeaux grape varieties.

### Vineyards & Grower Partners

- The 11-acre Merriam Estate “Windacre Vineyard” rests on a glacial riverbed that has given it unique soil compositions that translates into the complexity of the wines.
- One of the oldest vineyards in Sonoma County, Windacre was originally planted in 1890. However, it wasn’t until 1980 that the unique qualities of the property were considered for Bordeaux varietal wines, and merlot was planted.
- Since acquiring Windacre in 2000, Peter Merriam has taken the first step in creating blends with true vineyard character by complementing the merlot vines with cabernet franc, petit verdot, and cabernet sauvignon.