

2010 Michael Sullberg Merlot “Reserve” California



Traditionally, Merlot has been used most often to soften the bite of Cabernet Sauvignon, but winemakers and consumers are much quicker to recognize the unique quality of California Merlot. These are full-bodied red wines with soft tannins, quite enjoyable on their own.

Michael Sullberg is what has long been called a *negociant* producer. That means a streamlined business model: just a winemaker with no vineyards to tend, buying the best fruit available for the price range he is aiming for.

This mouthwatering Merlot is aged in small French oak barrels that lend a distinctive vanilla aroma balanced with flavors of ripe cherries, blackberries and plum. This is truly elegant wine from the nose to its long velvety finish.

Recommended pairings: Pulled Pork & Black Bean Quesadilla

– AND –

Parma Pizza