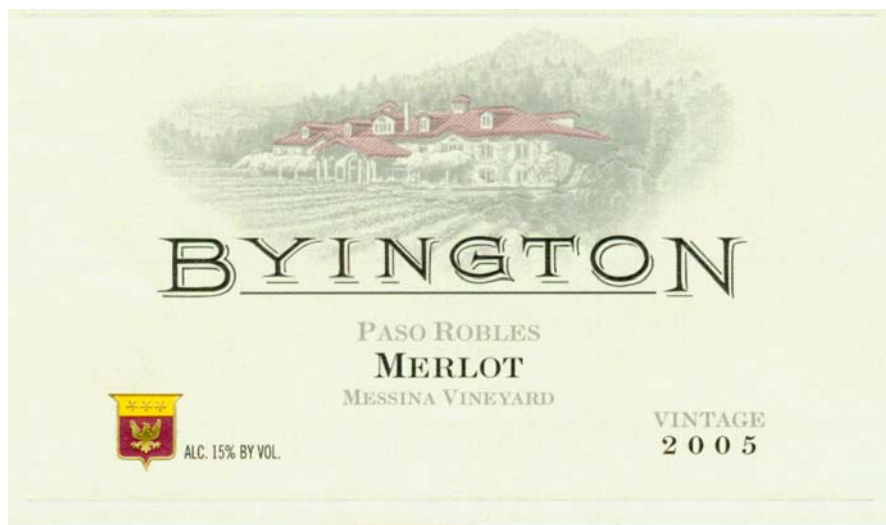


COLLECTOR'S RED



Appellation: Paso Robles

Vineyard Designation: Messina Vineyard

Production: 239 cases

The 2005 Messina Merlot is a perfect example of Paso Robles Merlot—bold and full-bodied. This wine will leave you in a state of awe. Messina Vineyard is located on Vineyard Drive, on the Western side of Paso Robles, California. Wild turkeys cross your path as you approach the well-manicured vineyard rows. On your first visit to the vineyard, you get a sense of the rustic quality of this property.

Messina vineyard grapes were first purchased as a blending component for our Alliage. Soon after tasting the wine in barrel, we knew that we could not let this wine go without mention in our Alliage. This spectacular vineyard imparts the terroir of old-world Europe with modern technology, resulting in a perfect compromise of the old and the new—a viticulturist's dream.

You will be amazed by the power of intense fruit on the nose: well focused, yet continually evolving in your glass. Flavors of cassis fruit with a slight hint of ginger and nutmeg make Messina Merlot an age-worthy wine. Cellar this wine for some time to come—8 to 10 years easily—before it peaks. By all means, buy a case and try some now to see how it develops throughout the years.