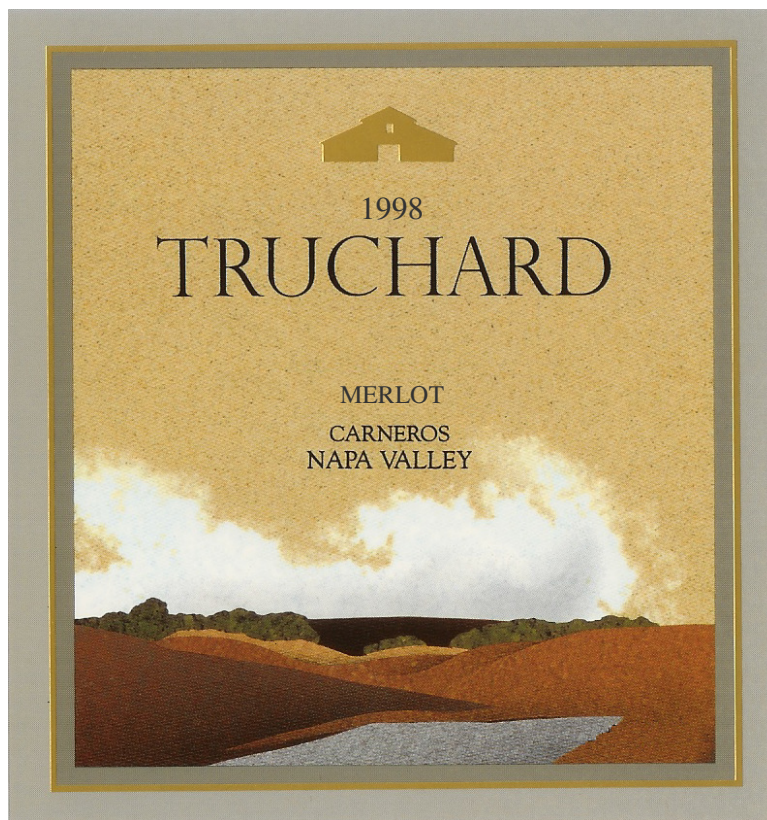




One Puff



TRUCHARD 1998 MERLOT – Taking on a sweet and open style from the very start, this well-mannered Merlot delivers an attractive mix of cherries, roasted herbs, rich oak and new leather smells in the nose, and it runs quite consistent in its flavors with oak-sweetened fruit its basic theme. Its scant tannins and easy feel encourage early drinking, and, while we do not argue against impatience, the wine should keep for a few years.