

ST. HELENA STAR

Star/NVV tasting panel: Merlot is the quiet powerhouse

Top Napa Valley Merlots

Coho Wines 2012 Michael Black Vineyard Merlot, Coombsville (\$55) has pronounced red plum and dark cherry aromas with toast and a dark earthiness. Sweeter red cherries dominate the palate, finishing with a kick of black pepper spice.