

Making Tracks on the Silverado Trail

At the Hunnicut custom crush facility on Napa's Silverado Trail, we met up with **Mike Doilney**, partner in the up-and-coming **Parallel** wine label. Winemaker **Philippe Melka** signed on to create some unique Napa character, and the 2009 Russian River Chardonnay got us hooked. With a year of age in the bottle, a candied yam and bright orange juiciness wowed us with a paradigm twist of a creamy, rich and buttery outer core. The combination of 14 to 17 days of fermentation in 400-liter puncheons, giving full contact on the lees, and 14 months of 60% new French oak explains some of the liquid design.

—Meridith May

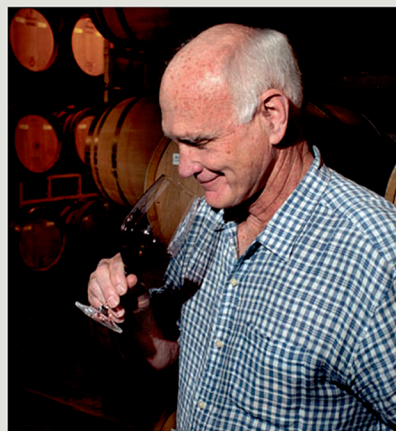


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Mike Doilney, partner, Parallel Wines, Napa Valley.

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