

EAT SMART BE FIT LIVE WELL

Cooking Light

DECEMBER 2008

The best
to you in
this special
double
issue



WINE TASTING



Top 10 gift wines

A single bottle of a remarkable vintage is an unforgettable present for the wine lover on your list. By Karen MacNeil

5. Blackbird 2006 from Oak Knoll District, California (\$100)

Labeled simply "Blackbird," this is, I find, the best merlot produced in California. It's a sumptuous, complex wine with rich, ripe intensity but also balanced and elegant with lasting flavors. Blackbird is a relatively new, small estate in the Napa Valley (founded in 2003), so even connoisseurs are just discovering it.