



CHARLES CREEK VINEYARD

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Charles Creek Vineyard Releases 2002 Miradero Merlot

SONOMA, California (Oct. 4, 2004) – Charles Creek Vineyard proprietors Bill and Gerry Brinton are pleased to announce the release of the winery's 2002 Miradero Merlot. The 2002 Miradero Napa and Sonoma County Merlot is a rich blend from California's two most prestigious wine growing regions, one that not only stunningly expresses the varietal, but is also the award-winning winery's most carefully crafted Merlot to date. The addition of Cabernet Sauvignon serves to emphasize the wine's meticulous balance and tremendous depth of character. The 2002 Miradero Merlot retails for \$24.50 per bottle.

Kerry Damskey, Charles Creek's internationally recognized winemaker, described the current release as exuding layers of rich, ripe, and spicy flavors. The wine opens with blueberry, currant, anise, and cedar notes, while layers of mocha-scented black cherries hover on the palate. Aged for 18 months in both French and American oak, the 2002 Miradero finishes long and toasty, exhibiting the polished characteristics of an elegant Pomerol. Chocolate and boysenberry round out the flavor of this exceptionally succulent blend.

"Excellent vineyard sources, including our own Charles Creek Estate Vineyard, have delivered an excellent, supple, smoothly textured wine," said Damskey.

Since its inception in 2002, Charles Creek has garnered several awards for its groundbreaking approach to winemaking. The winery's 2002 Las Patolitas Chardonnay and 2002 Vista del Halcon Chardonnay both received Gold Medals at the 2004 San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition, and the 2001 Miradero Merlot won "Best Merlot" in California and Sonoma County at the 2003 California State Fair. Most recently, the 2003 Las Patolitas Chardonnay and the 2002 La Sorpresa Chardonnay both received "Gold" medals at the 2004 Sonoma County Harvest Fair. The La Sorpresa was also awarded "Best of Class."

Specializing in high quality Chardonnay, Merlot, and Cabernet Sauvignon from great vineyard sources in the Sonoma and Napa valleys, Charles Creek produces wines that are food friendly, fruit driven, and easily paired with the courses of a meal. A descendant of John Deere, Bill Brinton operates Charles Creek according to the principals of value, integrity, and quality.

For more information on Charles Creek Vineyard, to purchase wine, or find a list of retailers visit www.charlescreek.com, or call the winery at (707) 996-6622. The mailing address for Charles Creek is 19229 Sonoma Highway #266, Sonoma, CA 95476.

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