



# CHARLES CREEK

## VINEYARD

2005

*La Vista Cabernet Sauvignon*  
*Stagecoach Vineyard - Napa Valley*

Winemaker: Kerry G. Damskey

Production: Small Production

Date of Bottling: November 2008

The Vineyards: 97% Stagecoach Vineyard-Napa Valley

The Vintage: While complicated by heavy rains in the late winter, a mid-march spring heat wave kicked off the growing season in a big way. Rains continued on an off through June with moderate temperatures overall; growers were forced to drop fruit that was affected by botrytis and mildew resulting in somewhat smaller crop yields. Ultimately, the vineyards got the sun and heat that they needed resulting in good quality fruit.

The Blend: 97% Cabernet Sauvignon  
3% Merlot

Winemaking: 100% Open Top-Punch Down Tank Fermentation  
23 months in French Oak Cooperage

The Wine: The legendary Stagecoach Vineyard rises to an elevation of 1700 feet above the eastern portion of Napa Valley's Oakville district, stretching from the western side of Atlas Peak to the southern portion of Pritchard Hill. Cabernet Sauvignon grown on this site is prized for its intensity and complexity of flavor.

A worthy successor to the highly praised 2004 vintage, this 2005 offering is tightly wound with good weight and structure for the cellar. Given time to aerate in the glass, a classic nose of dark fruits, spice and pipe-shop tobacco emerges. The flavors of juicy plum or dark cherry are accented by bright acidity and firm yet pliant tannins. Notes of vanilla and caramel carry through the finish.

Drink now with richer meats or lay down for the next 7-10 years (+).

The Stats: Alcohol: 14.7%  
Total Acidity: 6.2 G/L  
pH: 3.64  
RS: Nil