



CHARLES CREEK
V I N E Y A R D

2005

Punta Mita

Merlot

Hyde Vineyard-Napa Valley-Carneros

Winemaker: Kerry G. Damskey

Production: Low Availability

Bottling Date: November 7, 2007

The Vineyards: 100% Napa-Carneros (Hyde Vineyard).

The Blend: 100% Merlot

The Winemaking: 100% Open tank fermentation
22 months in French and American Oak Cooperage

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 Wine: With its classic Pomerol-like structure, crisp acidity and firm tannins, this world class Merlot will evolve substantially in the bottle over the next 8-10 years; with its rich core of fruit and spice it may be enjoyed for its youthful charms. Black fruit aromas are accented with hints of dark roasted cocoa or espresso bean. A mouth-filling weight and texture supports the flavors of dark cherry and Santa Rosa plum with hints of spice and cedar.

The Stats: Alc: 14.6%
Total Acidity: 0.54
pH: 3.66

Serve with: Slow roasted meats, such as lamb shanks or osso buco would shine with this bright, flavorful Merlot.

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