



HALTER RANCH VINEYARD

2005 MERLOT

Blend: 80% Merlot
14% Petit Verdot
6% Malbec

Harvest Dates: Merlot – Block 32 10/4/05
Petit Verdot – Block 23 10/21/05
Malbec – Block 42 9/27/05

Fermentation: Closed-top fermenters – 21 days

Barrel Aging: 18 months in French oak barrels

Alcohol: 15.0%

pH: 3.36

TA: 6.8 g/liter

Bottled: June 14, 2007

Production: 666 cases (12 x 750ml)

TASTING NOTES

The deep garnet and bright ruby tints of our 2005 Merlot signal the vivid fruit to be savored in the aromas and flavors of this vibrant, plush red. The complex nose is full of spiced cherry, brambleberry leather, herb, and cocoa scents, while the medium-bodied palate delivers lush cherry, toast, spice, brown sugar, chocolate and sweet oak flavors, climaxed by a generously fruity, supple finish. Ready to savor now with a diverse assortment of beef, lamb, pork, duck and pasta dishes, this luxurious Merlot will gain further complexity with another 5-10 years of bottle age.