

Keenan



Napa Valley
Spring Mountain District

2005 Napa Valley Merlot, Carneros

TASTING NOTES

Keenan has purchased Merlot grapes from the Napa Carneros district for many years. The "Carneros" is the southern region of Napa closest to the San Pablo Bay and is known for producing high quality Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Merlot. Merlot grown in the Carneros tends to be very fruity and soft with distinctive spicy nuances.

Keenan began purchasing Merlot from the Carneros to blend with the estate Merlot grown on Spring Mountain. The two wines are a great match; the Carneros Merlot softens the dense, powerful wines produced from the estate grown fruit. But, in 1999 we were so happy with the quality and distinctiveness of our Carneros Merlot, we decided to bottle a small amount on its own. We continued bottling small amounts through the 2002 vintage, but were unable to bottle this wine for the 2003 and 2004 vintages due to low yields. The 2005 vintage supplied us with improved yields, so we have once again created a limited bottling of the Carneros Merlot.

The 2005 Carneros Merlot shows jammy blackberry and raspberry aromas. Nuances of spice and cocoa emerge as the wine opens up. Velvety mouth-feel and well-balanced structure allow it to show wonderfully with a variety of well seasoned dishes.

WINE DATA

Alcohol:	14.3%
Total Acidity:	0.60 grams/100 mL
pH:	3.51
Residual Sugar:	Dry
Bottling Date:	April 17, 2007
Production:	490 Cases
Blend:	100% Merlot, Napa Carneros