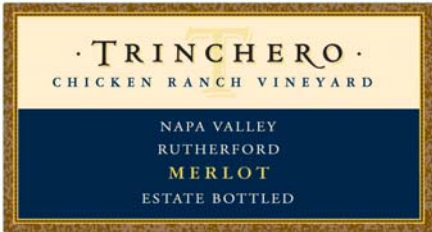




Trinchero Napa Valley Chicken Ranch Vineyard Merlot 2005



Vineyard Information

The 28 -acre Chicken Ranch Vineyard is located on the northern border of the Rutherford appellation. Sustainable farming methods (including Biodynamic techniques on some blocks) accompanied by low yields and aggressive canopy management produce wines that are dark, dense and packed with “Rutherford Dust. ”



Winemaking

The 2005 season was fairly cool and the late rains provided a slow start to vine growth but the summer months brought moderate temperatures encouraging extra berry growth. After a cold pre-soak, the grapes were fermented using the rack-and return method (delestage) favored by leading Bordeaux chateaux. In addition to increasing color and flavor, this process allows for the removal of seeds, which reduces astringency and produces more supple tannins. To further soften tannins and create a more generous texture, the wine was exposed to air during fermentation and barrel aging.



Tasting Notes

All of our vineyards yield wines that are distinct and recognizable from year to year. The signature flavors for Chicken Ranch are earth and dried herbs. This 2005 is textbook Rutherford Merlot. The color is deep, the nose is ripe and tinged with olives, leather and sage, and the flavors are ripe and lush.

Wine Information

Composition: 85.25% Merlot, 14.75% Cabernet Sauvignon
Barrel Aging: 50% French, 27% American, 23% Hungarian oak
Alcohol: 13.8%
pH: 3.57
T.A.: .60g/100ml
Cases: 5600 6-pack cases
Release Date: Julv 2007

