

GRGICH HILLS



GOLD MEDALS!
2005 Critics Challenge
2005 Indy International
2006 San Diego National
2005 International Eastern
2005 Tasters Guild Consumer
2005 Tasters Guild International

FIRST PLACE!
2005 Lake County Fair

Napa Valley MERLOT

ESTATE 2002 GROWN

ESTATE GROWN! 2002 marks the debut of those precious words on our Merlot label, meaning that the grapes came from only our estate vineyards and we had total control over their quality from bud break through vinification all the way to the bottling line. As such, you can rest assured this wine will be great. Still a baby, the 2002 Merlot already offers rich red fruit in the mouth – cherries, plums, strawberries, and currants – complemented by notes of cassis, licorice, leather, and a hint of green tea. The mouthfeel is full and structured, yet never loses the suppleness that is Merlot’s hallmark. Pleasantly dusty tannins provide underlying structure, and a long, smooth finish makes this wine eminently sippable. *Now available in 375 ml. bottles!*

Winemaker's Notes

Alcohol 14.2% by volume
Fermentation 2 weeks; stainless steel
Harvest date Sept. 11 - Oct. 8, 2002
Sugar 24.8 degrees Brix
Bottling date July 2004
Release date September 1, 2005
Residual sugar None
Total acid 6.25 g/L
pH 3.46
Time in oak 20 months
Type of oak French - 50% new; 50%
1-year and 2-year old
Production 4,893 cases

92 points
EXCEPTIONAL!
-2005 Beverage
Testing Institute

Brilliant ruby red-violet hue. Black cherry, purple orchid and candle wax aromas. Medium-full with very good concentration, this offers textbook varietal fruit and a long, round finish with beautifully integrated oak, exquisite tannins, and finely tuned acidity.



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