

KRUPP BROTHERS

**2005
Merlot**

Stagecoach Vineyard, Napa Valley

<i>Release Date</i>	September 1, 2008
<i>Vineyard</i>	Block D4 is one of the rockiest and most rugged blocks on Stagecoach Vineyard. Given its location on the western edge of the property, it has more valley and maritime influence than other areas of Stagecoach. Considering the inhospitable nature of the land, a low vigor rootstock was selected to ensure that the vines struggled. This block was planted to two French clones (181 and 343) which are widely accepted as two of the best France has to offer. All these factors result in producing a wine with intense fruit flavors and plush tannins.
<i>Vintage 2005</i>	Bud break arrived early in 2005. Bloom came late in May and the summer remained cool, leading to a long hang time. The vines were thinned during summer, which allowed a uniform ripening during September and October. A long, warm fall contributed to perfect ripening weather.
<i>Fermentation</i>	A four day cold soak was attained before fermentation with indigenous yeast. The wine was allowed extended time on skins – 27 days.
<i>Varietal Composition</i>	Merlot
<i>Harvest Dates</i>	October 5, 2005
<i>Bottled</i>	February 26, 2007; Unfined & Unfiltered
<i>pH/Brix</i>	3.71/26.7
<i>Alcohol</i>	14.5%
<i>Cooperage</i>	Matured for 16 months in 85% new French barriques – Taransaud and Bossuet
<i>Production</i>	290 cases



WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

A rich reddish black hue. Intense aromas of dried cherries, boysenberry, blueberries, violets, dried figs, cassis, black olives and spices. The palate transitions to sweet currants, dark cherries and ripe plums. This is a dense and well focused Merlot that showcases ripe, lush tannins and has a fine and persistent finish. Best served with grilled dry-aged ribeye steak and beef short rib stracotto. Enjoy now through 2018.

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Owned by Dr. Jan Krupp and his brother Bart. The estates are comprised of three mountain vineyards: Stagecoach, Krupp, and Krupp Brothers. These vineyards are the sources for their three brands: Veraison, Black Bart and the Krupp Brothers Gold Series.

