



# International Wine Cellar

the consumer's passport to fine wine

## LANDMARK

### 2005 Overlook Chardonnay **88**

(\$26; a blend of fruit from Sonoma, Santa Barbara and Monterey Counties) Green-gold. Fresh, spicy scents of orange, melon and minerals. Taut citrus flavors are focused and refreshing, with good mineral lift on the back. Finishes clean, brisk and persistent.

### 2005 Damaris Reserve Chardonnay Sonoma Valley **90**

(\$38) Pale gold. Fresh honeydew and peach on the nose, with a bright mineral accent. Crisp and nervy, with impressively focused pit and citrus flavors enlivened by a stony quality. Clean, nervy and long, with a lingering note of citrus zest.

### 2005 Armagh Chardonnay Sonoma Coast **91**

(\$45) Bright straw. Lush, expressive aromas of smoky citrus and orchard fruits, with an exotic twist of nutmeg and clove. Smooth in texture, with deep, ripe apple and pear flavors in a classic California style. A buttery element emerges with air, adding depth and richness to the finish. I'd drink this velvety and very seductive wine over the next few years, ideally with a richly sauced lobster dish.

### 2005 Lorenzo Vineyard Chardonnay Russian River Valley **92**

(\$48) Bright gold. Powerful orange, floral honey and gingerbread aromas lifted by a mineral quality. Juicy and focused, with bright citrus and orchard fruit flavors deepened by a gentle toasty note. Firms up on the finish, which features suave baking spices and serious persistence.

### 2005 Grand Detour Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast **89**

(\$30) Medium red. Spicy strawberry and redcurrant scents perked up by fresh flowers and minerals. Zesty red fruit flavors are focused and pure, with an exotic blood orange note adding complexity and vivacity on the finish. A late note of fine tannins adds grip to this clean, crisp, long wine.

### 2005 Kanzler Vineyard Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast **91**

(\$65) Medium red. Spicy strawberry and raspberry aromas are precise and brightened by suave minerality. Brisk and elegant, with bright red berry flavors, a subtle floral pastille note and fine-grained tannins. Fills out on the finish, picking up a jammy note and displaying outstanding length.

### 2005 Steel Plow Syrah The Kivelstadt Family Vineyard Sonoma Valley **90**

(\$26) Inky purple. Classic syrah nose: dark berries, smoked meat, minerals and floral oil, with a suggestion of bitter chocolate. Structured but loaded with sweet fruit, especially blackcurrant, with pleasant acid lift giving focus to the flavors. Firms up on the finish but this is really driven by sweet fruit.