

WINE COUNTRY

This Week

YOUR GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA GETAWAYS, THINGS TO DO & EVENTS

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GUFFY FAMILY WINES

Enjoying Great Wine is a Way of Life



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OCTOBER 23, 2009

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Limited-Edition Napa Valley Cabernet Sauvignon 2005 Stags Leap District Appellation Collection Released

An Exclusive Holiday Gift For Discerning Wine Lovers and Collectors

The Stags Leap District Winegrowers Association (SLDWA) celebrated, the 13th annual release of its limited-edition Appellation Collection. The Appellation Collection is comprised of one bottle from each of the association's winery members. For the wine lover, the Collection provides a unique opportunity to taste across the renowned district, one of Napa Valley's smallest sub-appellations. It is a perfect wine cellar addition or holiday gift. This distinctive collection of 17 Cabernet Sauvignons, limited to 200 cases, is available only through November 30, 2009 through the association.

With its debut in 1997, the Collection was conceived as a way to educate consumers about the appellation's distinct character and the wines' hallmarks of lush fruit and soft tannins, but it has additionally turned into a luxurious and coveted offering for avid collectors. The Appellation Collection is the ultimate gift for wine enthusiasts. These rare, critically acclaimed 2005 Cabernets cannot be purchased collectively anywhere in the

world," says Erle Martin, CEO of Pine Ridge Vineyards and the association's president, "which is pretty special." Released only once a year, the year's Collection is the largest yet as the association's membership increased to 17 wineries, adding this year both Robinson Family Vineyards and Terlato Family Vineyards.

The 2005 Appellation Collection includes one 2005 Stags Leap District designated Cabernet Sauvignon from each of the following Stags Leap District Winegrower wineries: Baldacci Family Vineyards, Chimney Rock Winery, Cliff Lede Vineyards, Clos Du Val, Hartwell Vineyards, Ilsley Vineyards, Malk Family Vineyards, Pine Ridge Vineyards, Regusci Winery, Robert Sinskey Vineyards, Robinson Family Vineyards, Shafer Vineyards, Silverado Vineyards, Stags' Leap Winery, Steltzner Vineyards, Taylor Family Vineyards and Terlato Family Vineyards.

"2005 was a beautiful vintage that served up what I see as the true, delicious hallmarks of Stags Leap District wines in spades – a sweet, juicy core of fruit and ripe, velvety

tannins," says Elias Fernandez, winemaker of Shafer Vineyards. "A perfect budbreak led to a long summer of warm, dry days and chilly evenings, ideal conditions that allowed us to leave the fruit on the vine until it achieved true physiological ripeness. The resulting wines are classic Stags Leap District."

Detailed winemaker tasting notes and additional information regarding the district accompany the Collection.

The 2005 Appellation Collection is \$1,375 per case plus 8.25% tax applies to California sales. In celebration of the appellation's 20th anniversary, complimentary ground shipping will be provided. Two-day air rates available. The Stags Leap District Winegrowers Association is the exclusive retailer of the Appellation Collection, the only collection of Cabernet Sauvignon released by an American Viticultural Association.

Consumers interested in purchasing the collection may order via the website at stagsleapdistrict.com/appellationcollection or for additional information contact the association's Executive Director Nancy Bialek at (707) 255-1720.