

90 **Truchard** *W+S*

1996 Napa Valley-Carneros Syrah Truchard makes a big extracted style of syrah that is both ripe and backward. It's filled with spice, plum and dried meat aromas, and the tarry plum fruit balances a firmly tannic finish. The acidity on the palate and finish is what keeps this wine balanced and inviting. It manages to straddle the fence so that you can enjoy it now with full-flavored meats or age it for a few years until it has lost its tannic grip. (1,324 cases) \$27 *Truchard Vvds, Napa, CA — B.V.O.*