



# THE WINE AUTHORITY

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1996 NAPA / SONOMA PREVIEW ISSUE

## TRUCHARD VINEYARDS

3234 OLD SONOMA ROAD

NAPA, CA 94559

(707) 253-7153

What started out as a 20 acre hobby in 1974 has turned into a full time business for Dr. Tony Truchard, his wife Jo Ann and their six children. Located in a small valley, slightly sheltered by the prevailing breezes from San Pablo Bay, the Truchard's now farm over 170 acres of vineyards. Their list of grape customers reads like a who's-who of North Coast wineries including Robert Mondavi, Ferrari-Carano, Raymond and Frog's Leap to name just a few.

With six wines currently being produced the Truchards do plan to grow slightly from the current production of 7,500 cases. While the production of their own wines remains small, plans for new vineyards are always under consideration. All of the wines are in limited distribution but are available for those willing to search them out.

### What to look for in 1996

1993 Pinot Noir, Carneros	-Now-	1,800 cases	\$19.00
Very Burgundian aromas of smoky cherry, truffles and spice. The fruit is very dark and dense with terrific color and tannin extraction.			HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
1992 Cabernet Sauvignon, Carneros	-Now-	1,800 cases	\$20.00
Inky purple color with attractive aromas of licorice and spice. Deeply concentrated with firm tannins			HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
1993 Merlot, Carneros	February	1,800 cases	\$20.00
Complex aromas of chocolate, coffee, and spice form a well knit package in this highly extracted and very concentrated wine. This is packed with ripe juicy tannins that will last 5-7 years.			HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
1994 Syrah, Carneros	April	800 cases	\$21.00

No Syrah is sold to other producers for good reason. This is world class Syrah that rivals the best wines of Hermitage and the Barossa. Vibrant white pepper and gamy spice aromas broaden on the palate to reveal layers of deep black fruit and rich meaty flavors. The concentration is remarkable and the tannins are well integrated. The bad news is that distribution is limited, the good news is that production of Syrah will increase in the next few years.

**Other wines to be released in 1996:** On my visit in December I was not able to taste the 1995 Zinfandel or 1995 Chardonnay which are both very limited and will be released in October or November.

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