

WINE ENTHUSIAST

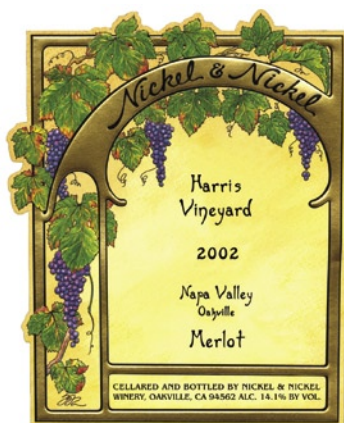
M A G A Z I N E

OCTOBER 2005

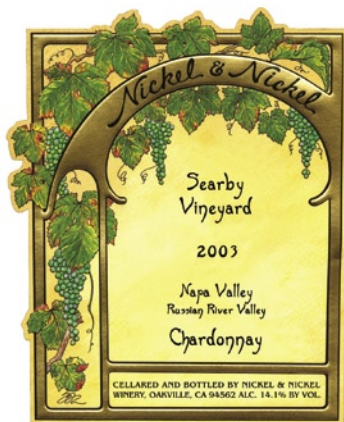
Buying Guide



93 Nickel & Nickel 2002 Suscol Ranch Merlot (Napa Valley) A fabulous Merlot that impresses with its instant deliciousness and complexity, yet is likely to hang in there and improve. Dark and full-bodied, with black currant, plum, grilled meat, olive, dark chocolate and spice flavors. The tannic structure is intricate, soft and complex. –S.H.



90 Nickel & Nickel 2002 Harris Vineyard Merlot (Oakville) Co-released with N&N's Suscol Ranch Merlot. This one's as ripe in currant, black cherry and chocolate fruit, and the tannins are as intricate and complex. Seems just a shade less complete, although it's still a dazzling wine. –S.H.



90 Nickel & Nickel 2003 Searby Vineyard Chardonnay (Russian River Valley) My favorite of N&N's three new single-vineyard Chards. Shows broad appeal with its array of peach, apple and tropical fruit flavors, heightened with touches of oak and lees. Young and crisp in acids, it's full-bodied enough to accompany roast duck. –S.H.