



2006 Novy Carlisle Vineyard Zinfandel

There's probably no winery that is more "hot" right now than Carlisle Winery. Mike & Kendall Officer produce a remarkable collection of wines under the Carlisle label and their flagship wine may well be their estate, Carlisle Vineyard Zinfandel. That being the case, there is obviously no real reason that the Officers need to sell us grapes. But they continue to do so out of friendship. And, boy, are we happy that they like us!

The last couple of vintages of Carlisle Zinfandel have struck us as a bit more Rhone-like and that is certainly the case with the 2006. At first, we thought we might have screwed up and bottled a Syrah/Grenache blend with the wrong label but given some airing the wine definitely shows more Zin-like. The 2006 Carlisle Zinfandel is more structured than previous wines, with a unique black licorice component which is joined by sage, black raspberry, and espresso flavors. The finish has tannins but they soften with 4+ hours of airing and the wine becomes more generous. We really think this Zinfandel deserves some cellar time. Perhaps celebrating the start of the 2009 football season would be good timing to pop a bottle.

84 cases produced
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