Entrepreneurs, Oklahoma natives, and husband and wife team of 20 years, Lynn Hofacket and Casidy Ward will be the first to tell you that they never expected to be vintners. Even when they purchased the remote and wild property that would become the Hidden Ridge Vineyard in 1991, becoming grape farmers was not what first came to mind. Originally, the plan was to fix up and resell the property as an estate country home site, but with market forces intervening and reduced demand for California real estate, their ideas began to shift. Wine demand was on its way up, and after taking some viticulture classes at nearby universities, the couple decided to plant a small vineyard on the property with the intent of selling the grapes to nearby wineries. This was in 1995, but the prep work took much longer than expected (years longer), and the vineyard didn’t come into fruition until 2001. A test barrel of wine proved the fruit was of superb quality, and it caught the attention of winemaker Marco DiGiulio who had been introduced to the secluded vineyard a year prior. He was blown away by the vision and interesting planning scheme of the site, and agreed to make Hidden Ridge’s first vintage of Cabernet Sauvignon in 2003. The response to this wine was astounding, and helped name Hidden Ridge “One of Twenty Exciting New Cabernet Labels to Watch” by Wine Spectator. Each vintage has also garnered 92+ Points—an impressive feat that places Hidden Ridge in the upper echelons of ultra boutique Sonoma County wineries.

**Accolades & Tasting Notes**

The Hidden Ridge 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon comes from the secluded Hidden Ridge Vineyard in the heart of the Mayacamas Mountains. Surrounding mountain peaks rise to 2,400 feet and shelter the 55-acre vineyard, giving rise to its name – Hidden Ridge. Fragrant, lush, and beautifully elegant, the 2005 vintage is a gorgeous representation of Sonoma’s mountain Cabernet fruit, garnering an incredibly-hard-to-get 95 Points from Wine Enthusiast magazine: “A very fine Cabernet that combines the modern cult style of ripeness with old-fashioned structure to produce a wine of exceptional appeal. It’s rich in mountain-intense black currants, bitter chocolate, spices and smoky oak, wrapped into splendid tannins, and the finish is thoroughly dry.” In addition, the 2005 Cabernet Sauvignon was scored 92 Points by Master of Wine Mary Ewing-Mulligan, one of only 27 Masters of Wine in the United States. This impressive bottling is 100% Cabernet Sauvignon. Aged 22 months in oak. Enjoy now through 2015.

**Reorders**

2005 Cabernet Sauvignon  
Winery Direct: $40.00 /bottle  
**Gold Medal Wine Store price:**  
2-Bottle Members: $34.00 /bottle  
4-Bottle / Multi-Series Members: $32.00 /bottle  
*2 bottle min. order. Availability is extremely limited. (plus shipping)  
www.goldmedalwineclub.com  
800-266-8888