

**PLUS!***Platinum Series Selection*

**Peju Province**  
*2005 Estate Bottled Merlot*  
Napa Valley

It was the love of farming and a passion for wine that brought Tony Peju to Napa Valley, but it was a series of ideas, starting in Peju's birthplace on the Caspian Sea, then France, England, and eventually, Los Angeles, that created the future for this landmark Napa Valley winery. While studying film at UCLA, Peju realized he enjoyed working with plants and flowers and worked for a number of florist and landscape companies where he developed an incredible talent. After marrying Herta Behensky, Peju decided the two should live on a farm and found the idyllic location in Napa Valley's famed Rutherford region. The 30-acre site included a 1900-era house and rambling vineyards (some 60+ years old) planted to Cabernet Sauvignon and French Colombard. When Peju purchased the property in 1983, the grapes were being sold to a number of wineries, and Peju continued to sell the grapes while improving the vineyard and taking Enology courses at nearby UC Davis. Peju channeled his passion for farming and wine into developing a premier winery and his initial winemaking efforts were rewarded with high critical praise. Today, more than 25 years later, Peju Province continues to stand as an achievement of award winning wines, food, art, and beautiful architecture.

ACCOLADES & TASTING NOTES

An excellent vintage from Peju Province, this 2005 Estate Bottled Merlot was awarded **91 Points** at the *California State Fair* in addition to receiving a **Double Gold Medal** from the *Florida International Wine Competition*. The combination of outstanding fruit, ideal ripeness and premium barrel aging makes this 2005 Merlot extraordinarily elegant and velvety. After harvest, the fruit spent 16 months in barrel to achieve solid structure, along with subtle hints of spice and toasty notes, before spending an additional 10 months aging in bottle. Also a **Gold Medal** winner at the *West Coast Wine Competition*, the 2005 Merlot is a blend from Peju's organically farmed Rutherford Vineyard and sustainably farmed Persephone Vineyard. In the glass, this wine shows deep hues of crimson and cranberry and the aromas display ripe brambleberries, brown sugar and cocoa with hints of toasty oak and allspice. Bing cherries and vanilla bean dance in the mouth while the balanced mid-palate gives way to soft yet firm tannins. 87% Merlot, 11% Cabernet Sauvignon and 2% Cabernet Franc. Enjoy now until 2015.

REORDERS

*2005 Estate Bottled Merlot*

Winery Direct: \$35.00 /bottle

**Gold Medal Wine Store price:**

**2-Bottle Members: \$29.50 /bottle**

**4-Bottle/ Multi-Series Members: \$27.50 /bottle**

\*2 bottle min. order. Availability is extremely limited.  
 (plus shipping)

[www.goldmedalwine.com](http://www.goldmedalwine.com)

800-266-8888

