

**2007 Carter Cellars Cabernet
Sauvignon Coliseum Block**

The compelling 2007 Cabernet Sauvignon Coliseum Block even eclipses the brilliant 2006. Opaque purple to the rim, with a gorgeous perfume of violets, licorice, blueberries, and blackberry liqueur, this backward, formidably endowed, full-bodied Cabernet Sauvignon possesses a multilayered texture, juicy, sweet fruit, loads of tannin, and well-integrated new oak. Cellar it for five years, and drink it over the following 25-30 years.

Carter Cellars is a relatively new operation (it began in the late 1990s) run by Mark Carter and Nils Venge. The wines are made at Venge's Saddleback Cellars in Oakville with some assistance from Fred Schrader. They have some interesting vineyard sources, including the Beckstoffer To-Kalon Vineyard in Oakville, the Truchard Vineyard in Carneros, the Revilo Vineyard in St. Helena, and the Coliseum Block in Soda Canyon.

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- Robert Parker (December, 2009)