

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

**Lancaster Estate 1999 Nicole's Vineyard
Receives "91" Rating from the *Wine Spectator***

*Micro-Production Alexander Valley Cabernet Sauvignon Recognized for
"Wonderful Balance, Focus and Length"*

HEALDSBURG, Calif. (November 12, 2002) – Lancaster Estate, a 53-acre hillside vineyard located in the southeast corner of Sonoma County's Alexander Valley, has received a 91-point rating from the *Wine Spectator* (November 15th issue) for its 1999 Nicole's Vineyard Cabernet Sauvignon. In its review, the *Wine Spectator*, a leading authority on wine ratings and reviews, praised the debut release as "Rich, intense and concentrated, with layers of complex earth, currant, black cherry, cedar and spice. Tightly wound, too, with wonderful balance, focus and length."

Like the winery's Lancaster wine, a Bordeaux blend, the 1999 Nicole's Vineyard is totally handcrafted to be an estate wine of the "domaine" model: grown on the winery's site, made in the winery's cellar, aged in their caves and bottled at the winery. The Nicole's Vineyard blend is 80% Cabernet Sauvignon, 20% Merlot. Aged for 22 months in small French chateau barrels, 75% of which are new, the Nicole's Vineyard wine is rich with ripe, bright Bing cherry and shaved chocolate aromas.

Lancaster Estate is offering the 1999 Nicole's Vineyard for approximately \$100 per bottle or \$600 per six-pack. Given the exceptional quality and limited yield, only 150 cases of Nicole's Vineyard have been produced.

Lancaster Estate is located less than a mile from the Russian River at the convergence of the Knights Valley and Chalk Hill appellations, a setting which provides for intense sunshine and uninterrupted warm summer days complemented by cool evenings that encourage rich and lush flavors. Lancaster Estate is located at 15001 Chalk Hill Road, Healdsburg, California 95448. Telephone: (707) 433-8178. The winery is open daily for tours (by appointment), tasting and retail sales.

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