

**Burford and Brown Wines****2005 Zinfandel, *Melanto Terrace*  
(Amador County)**

Good wines under \$15 are a treasure for those of us who like to drink wine regularly without severely denting the checkbook. **Burford and Brown's** 2005 Melanto Terrace Amador County Zinfandel is a great buy at \$14. It is winemaker Peter Burford's first release of an Amador appellation Zin. Burford sourced the fruit from ten-year-old vines, in the Wildwood Vineyard, located just outside of Fiddletown at an elevation of 4,000-feet.

The wine exhibits the classic Amador County black peppery spice Zin characteristics, balanced by Burford with untoasted French oak chips that lend an attractive sweetness. Burford says the wine gets a year in neutral wood, "to compliment the wine, yet not be in your face. And the chips elevate the aromatic profile of the wine."

Melanto Terrace Zin has a beautiful nose of blackberries and raspberries, dances lightly on the tongue and has a satisfying level of tannins and length of finish. A grilled rack of lamb or a cheddar burger would marry well with the lively black pepper spice notes in the wine.

Reviewed October 31, 2007 by [Jean Deitz Sexton](#).

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**THE WINE**

**Winery:** [Burford and Brown Wines](#)

**Vineyard:** Melanto Terrace

**Vintage:** 2005

**Wine:** Zinfandel

**Appellation:** [Amador County](#)

**Grape:** [Zinfandel](#)

**Price:** \$14.00

**THE REVIEWER****Jean Deitz Sexton**

Jean Deitz Sexton's first experiences with wine were drinking Italian wine as an NYU college student in New York City. She continues to have a love of red wines with a reasonable alcohol level, that have rich flavor, good fruit yet softness. Deitz Sexton has a great

fondness for Rhone varietals, anything with bubbles and of late, is obsessed with blends. Her approach to wine reviewing is pretty straightforward: does it have a pleasant nose, clarity of flavor, interesting notes, good mouth feel, and a satisfying finish?