



# 2009 Syrah

*Santa Barbara County*

The *2009 Santa Barbara County Syrah* combines fruit from several of the vineyards we work with. This year's vintage has a little Petite Sirah blended in to add power and complexity. It is a serious wine that is approachable in its youth. Sharing the same farming and winemaking techniques as our vineyard designated wines, it is a wine of great complexity and lower price. (1442 cases produced)

- This wine includes fruit from the Tierra Alta, Larner, and Verna's vineyards. Individual barrels from Thompson and Rusack Vineyards were also included.
- A few barrels of Petite Sirah were included to round out the flavors.
- The fruit was stemmed but not crushed. Intact, whole berries were placed in small bin boxes for fermentation.
- RC212, D254, and PDM yeast used.
- Fermented on the skins for 14 days as individual lots in small bin boxes. Cold soaked for 48 hours before primary fermentation was initiated.
- Went through ML fermentation, completing in April.
- Roughly 6% of the barrels used for aging were new, and the rest were older. Roughly half of the barrels were made of American oak. The rest were French oak.
- Wine was racked in July, and again before bottling.
- Aged 9 months in barrel.
- Unfined and lightly filtered before bottling.
- Bottled in September 2010.

## Reviews

### *92 Points - Robert Parker's 'The Wine Advocate'*

The 2009 Syrah is a gorgeous entry-level wine loaded with blackberries, blueberries, licorice and herbs. It shows lovely depth and roundness to match some of its more powerful tendencies. A few barrels of Petite Sirah add layers of muscle, yet this remains an exceptionally polished wine at its level, not to mention a fabulous value. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2020. – A.G.

### *93 Points - Jamsuckling.com*

I am in the middle of tasting wines from California's Santa Barbara County, and I came across a Syrah that I thought you needed to know about: it's the 2009 Jaffurs Syrah Santa Barbara County. I was really impressed with the balance of fruit and firm yet silky tannins, and plenty of dark fruits and spices. In structure, it reminds me of an excellent red from the northern Rhone. It's a bargain at around \$25 a bottle! Find the wine. – J.S.