

2009 Qualia Syrah-Grenache

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Working with a classic Rhone in mind, we created a blend with Syrah grapes from our Kivelstadt® family vineyard and Grenache from Kick Ranch® located on the northern end of Sonoma Valley. The idea was to take the dark, spicy and well structured style of the Syrah and add the red fruits, lively acidity and earthy tones of the Grenache. These two grapes pair naturally, making a wine with great acid, lively fruit and a clean finish. The Grenache was aged in neutral oak for 18 months, while the Syrah saw a touch of new oak. The Grenache and Syrah were fermented and barreled separately and blended in October 2010, with a touch of zinfandel to round out the flavors and bring out the fruit.

TASTING NOTES

The wine starts with a nose of spicy peppered raspberry and black cherry notes. The first taste is bright red fruit, followed by a jammier raspberry flavor, with hints of vanilla and cedar. The finish lingers cleanly on your back palette, with something that reminds me of raspberry rhubarb pie. This is a wine designed for food pairings. It will work well with anything from vegetarian to lamb. Unlike many red wines, this wine will stand up to spicy foods as well.

TECHNICAL DATA

pH: 3.74 Bottling Date: February 10th, 2011
TA: 5.9 g/L Release Date: March 15th, 2011
Alcohol: 14.6% Production: 246 Cases



