



BENOVIA
EST. 2005

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2009 Sonoma Mountain Grenache



Harvest Notes

Sonoma County experienced its third successive drought in the winter of 2008 and spring of 2009. The colder than average temperatures in spring pushed the season back by almost three weeks at flowering and fruit set. The summer was cool and dry with low mildew and rot pressure. Temperatures warmed in July and August, helping to create a very even veraison and setting the stage for a great vintage. Yields were below average and the stressed vines produced grapes with exceptional color, vibrant acidity, and balance. We are very excited about the 2009 vintage—it may be our best yet!

Winegrower Notes

This Grenache comes from the Four Brothers Vineyard along the north-western slope of Sonoma Mountain. The vineyard is situated in a cool microclimate because of its proximity to the cold wind and fog that flow through the Estero Gap from the Pacific Ocean. This multifaceted wine is produced from a field-blend of three different clones of Grenache, Syrah, Carignan and Alicante Bouchet. Harvested in the early morning, the fruit was rigorously hand sorted prior to destemming and open-top fermentation.

Tasting Notes

This Sonoma Mountain Grenache is gushing with aromas of currant, black plum and Bing cherry. The lifted aromas are followed by flavors of red fruit and milk chocolate. Sixteen months of oak aging in neutral barrels have added hints of savory herbs, grilled meats, and licorice to this complex and delicious wine.

Vineyard Sources

Four Brothers, Sullivan Vineyard

Harvest Data

October 10, 2009 | Alcohol 14.1% | pH 3.78 | TA 0.59

Fermentation

Open-top fermentation, indigenous yeast fermentation

Cooperage

Aged 16 months in French oak (0% new)

Bottling

March 2, 2011

Cases Produced

111 cases

Release Date

August 2011