

## KEEPER 2009 RHÔNE STYLE BLEND

MOURVEDRE 38%, GRENACHE 29%, SYRAH 20%, CINSAULT 11%, COUNOISE 2%,

For the first time Adelaida's Anna's Vineyard, planted in 2001 -2004 is the sole source of grapes for Version Red. Planted at 1900 feet of elevation on a Westside Paso Robles south facing ridge line, the vines are cropped to a low yield of two tons/acre resulting in smaller berry size and a higher ratio of skin to juice. A dedicated collection of Rhône grape varieties, Anna's mountainous 51 acres is divided between six red varieties (35.5 acres), and 4 lower elevation white varieties (15.4 acres). The red varieties benefit from ideal sun exposure and exhibit the nuanced flavors, influenced by the elevated mountain site. At 14 miles from the Pacific Ocean, the afternoon marine air flow accentuates a dramatic 40-50 degree diurnal temperature cool down. All vines, on drip, are planted on lime tolerant rootstock using a vertical shoot positioning training system. Vine spacing is four feet between vines and ten feet between rows with 1089 vines/acre. Yields are maintained at 2 tons/acre. In 2010 Adelaida achieved SIP Certification for our sustainable vineyard practices.

This third year of the continuing California drought stressed available water resources. Some frost occurred in early April but an ideal spring contributed to a good fruit set of tiny clusters. The uniform growing season slowly intensified color and ripeness, only to be interrupted by summer Central Coast offshore winds and heat, bringing many varieties to their maximum Brix levels. The vineyard crew harvested Pinot Noir and Anna's Syrah on Sept. 1st, Rhone whites and Grenache on Sept. 4th and 5th, followed by Cabernet and Zinfandel in the 3rd week of September. Mourvedre and Nebbiolo were harvested at month's end, just in time to miss the incoming storms. All in all, 2009 was an excellent vintage for our 23 varieties but in a flurry of organized chaos, the harvest was compressed into four short weeks.

The desire is to craft a wine that holds your interest and shows complexity from the blending of five Rhône varieties. Is that cassis, clove, star anise, pepper, wild mushrooms, and oh, oh that hint of rose petal just holds me- darn you're good, that's exactly what I was going to say. Grenache is raspberry. Mourvedre is game, spice, and earth. Syrah is dark berry fruit. Cinsault is softness aromatics, pepper. Counoise is deep purple, spice, floral. An overall engaging complex wine that hits all the senses, stimulates the taste buds and shines at the table. Versatile food pairings abound. Drink now to 2014.



### VINEYARD DETAILS:

AVA: Paso Robles  
Vineyard: Anna's Estate 100%  
Elevation: 1,200 feet – 1,900 feet  
Yield: 2 tons/acre  
Soils: Calcareous Limestone

### VINTAGE DETAILS:

Varieties: Grenache 38%, Mourvedre 29%,  
Syrah 20%, Cinsault 11%, Counoise 2%  
Cases: 907 cases produced  
Release Date: June 2012  
CA Suggested Retail: \$25

### HARVEST DATES:

September 1st- 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009

### TECHNICAL DATA:

Alcohol: 14.5%  
pH: 3.46  
TA: 6.6 g/L  
Brix: 26.5°  
Fermentation: 5 ton open top fermenters;  
indigenous yeast.

### COOPERAGE:

Barrel aged 20 months in 100% French oak  
(25% new).  
Bottled: January 11, 2012  
Unfined, Unfiltered.

