

## SYRAH 2009 VIKING VINEYARD

At 18 acres, our Viking Vineyard is a true mountain vineyard, located on the coastal influenced west Paso Robles, 14 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Sitting on an extremely steep, south-facing shelf of limestone, the site presents a challenging environment for growing grapes. Vine spacing is the tightest of all five Adelaida vineyards; 4 feet between vines and 8 feet between rows, 1361 vines/acre. Varying between 1,400 and 1,695 feet in elevation, these late ripening vines receive the full arc of the sun while keeping their crisp mountain fruit character, a function of elevation and the dramatic 40-50 degree afternoon cool down brought by the intrusion of the marine air flow. In 2010 Adelaida achieved SIP Certification for our sustainable vineyard practices.

A celebrated, ideal vintage with virtually no heat spikes and even ripening, albeit very low rainfall, the harvest dragged into late October, promoting substantial phenolic extraction from the small ripe berries. 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 mostly tiny clusters. A uniform growing season slowly intensified color and ripeness, only to be interrupted by summer Central Coast offshore winds and heat which brought many varieties quickly to maximum Brix levels. Skipping Labor Day, the vineyard crew harvested Pinot Noir and Anna's Syrah the first of September, Rhône whites and Grenache on the fourth, followed by Cabernet and Zinfandel in the third week of September. All in all 2009 was an excellent vintage for all of our 23 varieties, but compressed within 4 short weeks, a flurry of organized chaos.

"The 2009 Syrah Reserve Viking Vineyard emerges from the glass with juicy dark cherries, plums, flowers, leather and savory herbs. It shows a level of nuance, depth and sheer vibrancy that is missing from some of the other wines in this lineup. Layers of fruit build to the rich, intense finish. This is a terrific showing from Adelaida. Anticipated maturity: 2012-2019." Robert Parker's Wine Advocate. 93 points. Unfined, unfiltered.



### VINEYARD DETAILS:

AVA: Paso Robles  
Vineyard: Viking Estate Vineyard  
Elevation: 1,600 feet  
Grade: 30%  
Soil: Calcareous Limestone  
Clone: Estrella Selection  
Rootstock: 110R, Saint George  
Planted Acres: 1.5  
Yield: 2 tons/acre

### VINTAGE DETAILS:

Varietal: 100% Syrah  
Cases: 104 cases produced  
Release Date: November 2012  
CA Suggested Retail: \$65

### HARVEST DATES:

September 1, 2009

### TECHNICAL DATA:

Alcohol: 14.9%  
pH: 3.81  
TA: 5.5 g/L  
Brix: 27.9  
Yield: 2 tons/acre  
Fermentation: five ton open top fermentor tanks, native yeast

### COOPERAGE:

Barrel aged 21 months in French oak (40% new)  
Bottled: July 19, 2011  
Unfined, unfiltered.