

SYRAH 2010

VIKING ESTATE VINEYARD RESERVE

Planted in 1991 the Viking Vineyard encompasses 18 acres, on a south facing ridge line some 14 miles from the Pacific Ocean. It's location in the coastal influenced mountain range of west Paso Robles lends validation to the term "mountain terroir". At 1900 ft. the site comprises 15 acres of Cabernet Sauvignon, 1.5 acres of Cabernet Franc and 1.5 acres of Syrah. 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.

2010, although a bit cooler than the average Paso Robles vintage, allowed long hang times and good fruit intensity. The small planting of Syrah lies midway down the slope of the vineyard, literally a landlocked "island" in a sea of Cabernet Sauvignon. Based on the Estrella clone, these vines can trace their origins to cuttings from Chapoutier's northern Rhone vineyards in Tain Hermitage. Characterized by small tight clusters the vines produce low yields of deeply colored berries. There is a sense of real extract here, meaty, yet with vibrant underlying fruit. It's like dining in a Moroccan restaurant with scents of a North African spice bazaar leading off the parade of flavors, which continue with powerful raspberry liqueur-like flavors accented by a gentle mineral lift. The long finish speaks of cured meats, silky tannins and luscious red berry preserves. Blessed with good ageing potential the "Viking" can be enjoyed now or cellared through 2020.



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: 123 cases produced
 Release Date: Fall 2013
 CA Suggested Retail: \$65

HARVEST DATES:

September 21, 2010

TECHNICAL DATA:

Alcohol: 15.5%
 pH: 3.61
 TA: 5.5 g/L
 Brix: 25.8
 Yield: 2 tons/acre
 Fermentation: five ton open top fermentor tanks,
 native yeast, hand-punch downs

COOPERAGE:

Barrel aged 20 months in French oak (33% new)
 Bottled: 6/28/12
 Unfined, unfiltered.