

SYRAH ANNA'S VINEYARD 2008

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) planted in 2007. Red varieties benefit from ideal sun exposure and exhibit the nuanced flavors of their Westside Paso location, influenced by the elevated mountain site. At between 1595-1935 feet, the red varieties lie on an extreme 30 degree slope rooted in devigorating calcareous shale sub soils. 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 4 feet between vines and 10 feet between rows, 1089 vines/acre. Yields are maintained at 2 tons/acre. In 2010 Adelaida achieved SIP Certification for our sustainable vineyard practices.

A challenging year, 2008 gave us all the insults that make farming a risky business. Bud break began in late March and continued through April, followed by early spring frosts. Our vineyards lie on steeply sloping terrain which tends to minimize damage to the tender emerging shoots due to the action of gravity pulling the natural air flow down the slope, in essence, friction preventing frost damage. In May, a heat wave caught the late ripening Cabernet during the critical flowering period, resulting in some shatter and uneven clusters. Unfriendly heat continued into June, but normal summer temperatures prevailed until late August when 100 degree temperatures returned, accelerating the ripening. The harvest began on August 25th with the initial picking of Pinot Noir, and continued until the first week of October. In general, wines achieved phenolic ripeness but the shortened growing season and continuing drought resulted in reduced yields.

The dense inky black/red color is reaffirmed in the mouth-coating ripe blackberry fruitiness hinting of lavender and fresh wild game. Extremely supple, the wine's mellow viscosity leaves one contemplating fine Italian espresso, the best Ecuadorian chocolate and orange zest. Nuance wins the race over bombast

Syrah 2008
ADELAIDA

ANNA'S ESTATE VINEYARD - PASO ROBLES



VINEYARD DETAILS:

AVA: Paso Robles
Vineyard: Anna's Estate Vineyard
Elevation: 1,800-1,900 feet
Soil: Calcareous Limestone
Clones: 470,383, 877, 174, & Tablas Clone A
Rootstocks: 420A, Fercal D03, 140 RU, 1103P, 1040R
Planted Acres: 18

VINTAGE DETAILS:

Varietal: 100% Syrah
Cases: 965 cases produced
Release Date: February 1, 2011
CA Suggested Retail: \$28

HARVEST DATES:

August 26-30, 2008

TECHNICAL DATA:

Alcohol: 14.5%
pH: 3.64
TA: 5.79 g/L
Brix: 25.5°
Yield: 2 tons/acre
Fermentation: five ton open top tanks, native yeast

COOPERAGE:

Barrel aged 23 months in 100% French oak (28% new).
Bottled: July 20th, 2010.
Unfined.