

Paul Hobbs

2005 Syrah Kick Ranch Sonoma County

Inaugural Vintage

Vineyard

- ◆ Appellation: Sonoma County
- ◆ Clones: Hermitage
- ◆ Vine Age: Planted in 2001
- ◆ Site: gravely clay loam, with lots of exposed red volcanic soil on hillside
- ◆ Yield: 2.5 tons /acre

Harvest

- ◆ Harvest Date: October 12
- ◆ Harvest Brix: 26.2°
- ◆ Growing Season: Extended, cool spring weather resulted in late bud break. An ideal, long, temperate growing season followed, allowing for slow, full and even ripening of the fruit. Harvest began later than usual. The resulting wines can be characterized as rich and elegant with gorgeous aromatics.

Winemaking

- ◆ Hand-harvested grapes
- ◆ Fermented in small, open-top stainless steel fermentors with indigenous yeasts
- ◆ 5 day cold soak, 19 days total maceration
- ◆ Spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrels, 6 months to completion
- ◆ Aged 17 months in Francois Freres, Cadus and Dany French oak barrels; 75% new
- ◆ Unfined, unfiltered, bottled in March 2007
- ◆ 95% Syrah, 5% Cabernet Sauvignon

Notes

- ◆ This syrah offers all the bold, heady character you might expect from the varietal, but is absolutely refined in its balance of power with elegance and sophistication. A deep ruby hue tinged with blue is the prelude to a nose scented with blueberry and subtle notes of white pepper and smoke. A palate that is weighty on the tongue wraps mocha, sweet tobacco and pepper around a rich core of cranberry and black tea that shows just a soupçon of smoked meat. Well-integrated and fine tannins frame a wine that is drinking beautifully now and will clearly develop over the next several years. Alcohol 15.2%