

PAUL HOBBS

2009 SYRAH KICK RANCH VINEYARD SONOMA COUNTY

VINEYARD

- Owners: Richard & Katherine Keenan
- Appellation: Sonoma County
- Clonal Selections: Hermitage, 470
- Vine Age: Planted in 2001
- Site: Gravelly clay loam, exposed red volcanic soil on hillside; southern exposure
- Yield: 2.8 tons/acre

HARVEST

- Harvest Date: October 26
- Harvest Brix: 25.8°
- Growing Season: 2009 began with an abundance of spring rain followed by mild, steady summer temperatures that set the stage for nearly ideal pinot noir and chardonnay growing conditions. The well-set fruit ripened slowly allowing for an excellent balance of sugars and acids to develop. The resulting wines can be characterized as elegant and rich with profound depth and structure.

WINEMAKING

- Hand-harvested grapes
- Fermented in small, open-top stainless steel fermentors with indigenous yeasts
- 6-day cold soak, 18 days total maceration
- Hand-punched cap
- Native malolactic fermentation in barrels
- Aged 18 months in Francois Frères and Remond French oak barrels; 63% new
- Unblended, unfined and unfiltered; bottled April 2011

NOTES

- Dense violet/ruby in color, it is vibrantly floral and earthy on the nose. A burst of ripe, juicy black plum, blueberry and sweet tobacco introduces a palate heady with nuances of anise, thyme, sweet tobacco and leather. As fruit and savory flavors meld through the mid-palate, a hint of toasted vanilla bean and citrus oil adds dimension as big, ripe tannins confirm the wine's muscularity and age-worthiness over the finish. Alcohol 14.8%