



2005 GOAT ROCK SYRAH, SANTA MARIA VALLEY

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

In a secluded canyon less than twenty miles from the Pacific Ocean, along the Santa Maria Bench is a steep, craggy, hillside block of Syrah we affectionately call Goat Rock. Located just beyond the famed Bien Nacido Vineyard, Goat Rock is at the back of a box canyon where the temperature can be up to five degrees warmer than the opening. In the late afternoon, the Pacific breeze cools the hillsides off extending the growing season and preserving acidity.

I love making this wine. Although it's not as delicate as our Pinot Noir, I still give it the same care and attention. The grapes are brought into the winery and fermented in small five ton fermenters; punch-downs are done by hand. We only get about two tons per acre from the vineyard, so the fruit has wonderful concentration. This wine has waves of juicy blackberry fruit complemented by spicy black pepper notes. The blend spends 12 months in 50% new French oak to add to the complexity and mouthfeel.

-- *Natasha Boffman, Winemaker*

TECHNICAL DATA

BLEND: 100% Syrah
ALCOHOL: 14.8%
HARVEST BRIX: 25.9
HARVEST DATE: Oct. 13-15, 2005

ACCOLADES

TAZ 2004 Goat Rock Syrah

Wine Enthusiast
Rated 92 - December 1, 2006

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