



2009 EL DORADO RESERVE GRENACHE

Sources: David Girard Vineyard and Duarte Vineyard, El Dorado County

Harvest Dates: Oct 2, 2009 / Oct 10, 2009

Brix at Harvest: 27.5 & 23.5

Time in Barrel: 18 months

Type of Oak: Neutral French & American

Alcohol: 15%

Bottled: April 21, 2011

Production: 185 cases

Winemaker's Notes: The Grenache grape is the number one grown grape in California. This classic Southern Rhone wine grape is packed with rich ripe strawberry flavors with a touch of spiciness and a lighter fruit-burst finish. This wine exudes the character of the Rhone River Valley Appellation *Gigondas* and has that powerful hint of smokiness and soft tannin. The wine also exhibits full round fruit flavors and shows the traditional earth tone Rhone style.

This is a big Grenache with supple tannins that goes well with most meat dishes and can accompany grilled salmon in quite a nice fashion. As the world's most widely planted red grape (largely in France and Spain), Grenache is often picked early due to its early bud break because rain often affects its late ripening. This grape is perfect for El Dorado County because October typically has beautiful weather. In California, Grenache has been around in blends of all kinds since the 1850s, with about 7,700 acres currently planted.

We are excited to produce a quality varietal Grenache as evidence those Rhone grapes grow and lovingly vinified in the Foothills create truly world-class wines.