

AUSTIN HOPE WINERY

2005 SYRAH

Hope Family Vineyard, Paso Robles

Blend
100% Syrah

Vineyards

Grapes were grown in the Hope Family Vineyard located in the Templeton Gap region of west Paso Robles. The different clones of Syrah are planted in high density spacing, ranging from 5' x 5' to 6' x 4'.

Harvest

In Paso Robles, 2005 was not a typical growing year. We experienced a long rainy season causing rapid vine growth in April and May. We were especially proactive early-on in the Hope Family Vineyard. Our Syrah vines yield 2.5 to 3 tons per acre, producing eight clusters per vine. With temperatures markedly cooler than normal, we didn't begin harvesting Syrah until October 10 at 26 -26.6° brix.

Production Notes

Grapes were fermented in five ton, open-top tanks, then barreled down into 70% new French oak from a variety of coopers, and 30% 1-2 year old French oak barrels. The wine was aged 16 months with no racking. It was filtered just prior to bottling.

Tasting Notes

The 2005 Syrah has a beautifully extracted, deep color. The wine offers deep, ripe aromas of blueberry and cassis with subtle pancetta notes. Persistent dark berry and spice flavors are nicely balanced by a high-toned minerality. Solid, but seamless tannins provide structure and elegance. The Syrah has a lush, rich mouth-feel.

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