



Sierra Vista
VINEYARDS & WINERY, LLC

2006 Mourvèdre

PHILOSOPHY

We have been growing Mourvèdre, another exciting addition to our Rhône collection, since 1996 and blending it in our Fleur de Montagne, a Chateauneuf-du-Pape style blend. 2002 was the first year we had two things happen – the quality was good enough to stand on its' own and we had some left over after we blended the Fleur. Mourvèdre has been used in France for many years as a single varietal in the wines from the Bandol region in the South of France. It is also used as a major blending component in the wines from Chateauneuf-du-Pape in the Southern Rhône. It is a great varietal with complex aromas and flavors that can stand alone and provide structure and weight in a blend.



VINEYARD SOURCE

Our first Mourvèdre was grafted onto Cabernet Sauvignon vines in 1996 on a west facing slope. We quickly found that it is a very late ripener, often coming in later than the late harvest Viognier. When we decided we wanted more of this fruit, we purchased vines from Tablas Creek, a nursery owned by the Perrins of Chateau de Beaucastel. These vines were planted on a west facing slope in 1998 on 110R rootstock. In total we only have 1.2 acres, which generally produce 2-3 tons of fruit.

2006 VINTAGE

The spring was very wet and cool with late bud break. The moderate temperatures were broken with a short two-week heat wave in the summer. In August the temperatures moderated, and a cool, long fall resulted in a slow long drawn out harvest. This allowed good ripening of the fruit with rich flavor and resulted in a lovely wine with great varietal character.

WINEMAKER'S TASTING NOTES

Our fourth varietal Mourvèdre is a blend of 90% Mourvèdre, 5% Grenache and 5% Syrah. The blending components add complexity and complete the middle pallet. The wine is medium-bodied wine with blueberry and plum fruit layered with roasted meat and herbal notes. We have been enjoying it with grilled meats and hearty stews and soups.

Harvest Date	October 7 th
Sugar at Harvest	25° Brix
Bottling Date	March 2008
Cases Produced	170

John MacCready, Owner & Winemaker