



2007 Fleur de Montagne

Philosophy

After planting Syrah in 1979 and finding that it followed a similar pattern to wines of the Rhone valley of France, we thought we might try expanding our Rhone style collection and looked at other well-known regions in the Rhone valley. Chateauneuf-du-Pape is a region in France that is allowed to grow 13 different varietals and blend them together to produce their wine. The primary varietals grown there are Grenache, Syrah, Mourvèdre and Cinsault. We followed that pattern and have produced a blend of our own using these four varietals.

Vineyard Source

The Cinsault is grown at the Reeves vineyard located on the western side and adjacent to Sierra Vista. Mrs. Reeves is John's sister so it is still in the family. We have two clones of Grenache here on the winery property. One originated in the vineyard of Chateau Rayas and the other in the vineyard of Chateau de Beaucastel both in Chateauneuf-du-Pape in the Southern Rhone Valley of France. The Syrah and Mourvèdre we use in this blend are from the winery estate.

2007Vintage

2007 started with below average rainfall in the winter followed by an early spring. This caused the vines to bud out early by several weeks. This was, followed by an early bloom. One would have predicted a very early harvest with veraison starting the first of August. As it turned out we had almost no hot weather so veraison was only a couple weeks early followed by harvest starting in early September.

Winemaker's Tasting Notes

Garnet in color, the aromas are those of bright red fruits – cherry, raspberry and plum –with rose petal notes. In the mouth, the wine is smooth with flavors of black cherry, strawberry, white pepper and clove. This wine can be paired with red meats as well as Chicken and Turkey. It is a wonderfully versatile wine that complements steak as well as blackened salmon.

Syrah	40%
Grenache	40%
Mourvedre	15%
Cinsault	5%
Time in Oak	18 months
Bottling Date	Aug 2008
Cases Produced	389
Alcohol	13.3%

John MacCready winemaker