



2009 Viognier

Philosophy

John and Barbara MacCready, the founders of Sierra Vista Winery, decided to plant Viognier after a trip to the Northern Rhône Valley where they tasted the wines of Condrieu. They returned from their visit knowing that Syrah does well in our area and curious to see if the growing region might have something in common with the Northern Rhône. John researched that area and found the soil and climate in this part of El Dorado are similar to the Northern Rhône Valley.

Vineyard Source

Our Viognier is all estate grown here on the property surrounding the winery. Located on a ridge top at 2800 feet elevation with volcanic based soils, the vines enjoy warm days and cool nights that encourage even ripening and a long hang-time on the vines. The Viognier ripens in mid-season with small to medium sized clusters of golden hued berries. Even as fresh grapes, the flavors of honeysuckle, peach and apricot are present.



2009 Vintage

We had a normal spring with bud break at the usual time followed by a moderate summer. There was a late spring rain that allowed us to try a year of farming with almost no irrigation. The only vines we irrigated were the Roussanne so every thing else was dry farmed. This allowed the grapes to ripen to maturity without developing high sugar and thus high alcohol. We started harvesting in the first week of September – which is slightly early

Winemakers Tasting Notes

This is a lovely floral wine that matches its prestigious counterpart Condrieu from The Rhone Valley in France . The aromas are floral with fresh peach, apricot and a touch of spice adding to the complexity. The mouthfeel is

Harvest Date	Sept 11
Sugar at Harvest	23.9° Brix
Time in Oak	9 months
Bottling Date	March 2010
Cases Produced	200

round and rich with fresh apricot and nectarine fruit followed by citrus and spiced orange in the long finish. This is still one of our favorites with Thai and other Asian cuisines. It is a great complement to Green Curry Chicken or Panang Curry Pork. It is also good by itself!!!
– John MacCready, Winemaker