



## 2010 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.

### Vineyard Source

Our Viognier is all estate grown here on the property on a north east facing slope. 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.



### 2010 Vintage

The winter and spring were cool and after three drought years we were blessed with abundant rain. This caused late bud break and a late bloom. Harvest did not begin until the week of Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>. similar to our first decade of winemaking. We had a nice long cool harvest and picked our last grapes just in time before a six inch rain arrived. The grapes were put in the fermenting tanks and covered just as the rain started.

### Tasting Notes

This Viognier was fermented partially with "wild yeast" from the vineyard and as a result is slightly different than previous vintages. The aromas are floral with fresh peach, apricot and a touch of spice adding to the complexity. The mouthfeel is round and rich with fresh apricot and nectarine fruit followed by citrus and spiced orange in the 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.

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|------------------|------------|
| Harvest Date     | Sept 19    |
| Sugar at Harvest | 23.8 Brix  |
| Bottling Date    | March 2011 |
| Release Date     | Sept 2011  |
| Cases Produced   | 251        |
| Alc.             | 13.7%      |

John MacCready, Winemaker