



2008 DYER VINEYARD

Syrah, Carneros, Napa Valley



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Nestled in the hills of south Napa, Dyer Vineyard is planted on a northwest-facing hillside receiving excellent sun exposure. The climate is relatively cool and the fruit is slow to ripen, allowing for a long hang time. The soils are composed of clay loam and the slope lends itself to good drainage. The rootstock and clonal selection at this site are the perfect match for the vineyard and the flavors develop with great intensity. Nickel & Nickel produces Syrah from just four acres of this 30-acre vineyard.

HARVEST NOTES

The 2008 growing season provided a variety of weather patterns that presented a few challenges, but ultimately resulted in some exciting wines. The year began with substantial rainfall, but was followed by a dry spell that actually put us behind normal precipitation levels. The longest frost season in decades followed, which lowered vineyard yields, but the remaining crop developed beautiful intensity. Very warm temperatures in mid-May gave way to a cool summer and warm September, and the smaller crop ripened quickly in the heat. This vineyard was harvested in the beginning of October just as the fruit began to dimple and the leaves started to turn yellow.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The Dyer Syrah is a wonderful expression of a dark, meaty-style Syrah. The 2008 vintage is dense with raspberry and boysenberry fruits, which combine with its dark chocolate character, offering a nice textural feel. The natural earthy and meaty character of the varietal adds an interesting element amidst the fruit and the toasty French oak, adding a slight roasted quality. This combination of flavors will continue to evolve with age and reward those with the opportunity to cellar this wine.

APPELLATION

Carneros, Napa Valley

VARIETAL

100% Syrah

AGING

French oak barrels
(40% new, 60% once-used)

RELEASE DATE

March 2011

HARVEST DATE

October 1, 2008

SKIN CONTACT

10 days

TIME

10 months

FIRST VINTAGE

2001

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