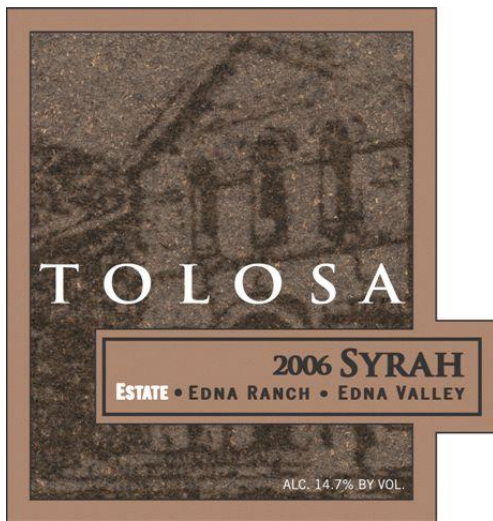


TOLOSA

Estate Wines

2006 Syrah



Varietal:	92% Syrah
Appellation:	Edna Valley AVA
Clonal Selection:	Estrella, 174, 99, 877
Alcohol:	14.6%
T.A.:	6.27 g/L
pH:	3.7
Brix at Harvest:	24.7°-26.1°
Cooperage Used:	Meyrieux, Radoux
Barrel Regime:	15% new French Oak, 85% older French
Barrel Aging:	17 months in barrel
Bottling Date:	March 2008
Aging Potential:	5 +
Production:	807 cases 750ml
Food Pairing:	Duck confit or Mole enchiladas
Suggested Retail:	\$24.00

Vineyard Notes

Syrah vines grow in several vineyard blocks spread throughout our Estate. It grows in our coolest, as well as our warmest vineyard locations. We draw from different areas each vintage, and this diversity of sites has been a great strength. Syrah requires much patience in the Edna Valley AVA; it is the last variety to ripen on our estate each year, and it is the wine which reveals itself most slowly in the winery. This was particularly true in 2006 the latest vintage on record. Tolosa Syrah spends nearly eighteen months in barrel before barrel selection and bottling.

Winemaking Notes

The main challenge of our winemaking in 2006 was the lateness of the vintage itself. A cold and wet spring pushed the vintage weeks past average harvest dates. Only those areas of the vineyard with low crop levels were chosen for the Estate wine. As the vintage was late we did everything in our power to increase the perceived ripeness of the wine. This included lengthening the vatting time in the tank, excluding any press wine, racking the wines earlier and more often than is usual and being even more careful in our final barrel selection and blending process. This wine surprised us by softening in the bottle far earlier than we anticipated. We thought that it would take several years for this vintage to open up, but it is quite drinkable in its youth.

This transparent ruby red wine has an almost overwhelming aromatic nature. Syrah's characteristic perfume of black pepper is present in abundance, as well as blueberry, cedar, tobacco, and East Indian spices. The palate is primarily ripe fruit with hints of black walnut and toast. It is fresh and poised delicately between the concentrated young fruit and the spicy tannins. It is sassy and full of itself in the most charming way.

– Winemaker Tasting Notes