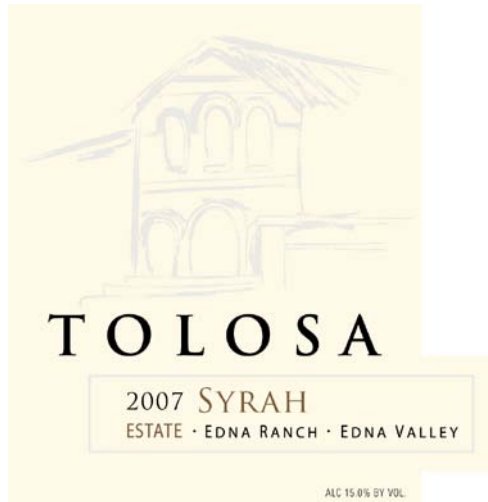


# TOLOSA

*Estate Wines*

## 2007 Syrah



<b>Varietal:</b>	100% Syrah
<b>Appellation:</b>	Edna Valley AVA
<b>Clonal Selection:</b>	Estrella, 99, 174
<b>Alcohol:</b>	15.0%
<b>T.A.:</b>	6.53g/L
<b>pH:</b>	3.57
<b>Brix at Harvest:</b>	25°
<b>Cooperage Used:</b>	French 15% new
<b>Barrel Regime:</b>	100%
<b>Barrel Aging:</b>	20 months
<b>Bottling Date:</b>	9/10/2009
<b>Aging Potential:</b>	6-8 years
<b>Production:</b>	1,400 cases
<b>Food Pairing:</b>	something rich
<b>Suggested Retail:</b>	\$24.00

## Vineyard Notes

Of our 800 acres of estate vineyard only a tiny portion is suitable for ripening Syrah year in and year out. We generally use only 10-15 acres for our Tolosa Syrah. The 2007 vintage was unusual because virtually every bit of Syrah ripened beautifully. The dry early spring and the mild sunny season allowed Syrah to ripen fully and retain high amounts of fruit freshness. In most years we blend some Grenache, Viognier and Petit Sirah into our Syrah to add depth and breadth to the flavors, but this year the Syrah ripened so perfectly we made the highly unusual decision for us of bottling it as pure Syrah.

## Winemaking Notes

We use small open topped fermenters for our red wines in order to control extraction of color and flavor. The wines are generally cold soaked for a few days before fermentation begins. We drain the wine off the skins when flavor peaks. In this wine's case it was after 10-14 days depending on the individual ferments. Only the free run wine was used. No press wine went to barrel or bottle. We use French oak barrels only. We keep the amount of new oak fairly low on Syrah as it can overwhelm the aroma if you are not careful.

## *Winemaker Tasting Notes*

*This wine is a rich dark purple color bordering on black. The fruit aromas of berry and plum are dominating its early youth, but underneath these you can detect other elements that will emerge more strongly with time. These include the expected pepper, but also lavender and hints of natural spice notes. The rich mouth is youthful with fruit offset by smooth balanced tannins.*