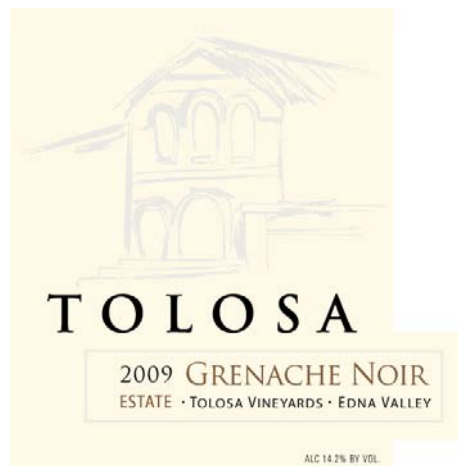


TOLOSA

Estate Wines

2009 Grenache Noir



| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Varietal: | 78% Grenache Noir 18% Syrah, 4 % Petite Sirah |
| Appellation: | Edna Valley |
| Alcohol: | 14.2 % |
| T.A.: | 5.7 |
| pH: | 3.4 |
| Brix at Harvest: | 25 ° |
| Barrel Aging: | 24.8 |
| Bottling Date: | 9/1/2011 |
| Production: | 340 cases |
| Food Pairing: | Paella or lentil dishes |
| Suggested Retail: | \$34.00 |

Vineyard Notes

We have very little Grenache on our Estate vineyards and even less that is suitable for red wine. To say that it is an unreliable ripener would be an understatement. Most years most of it goes into rose production for good reason. But, every so often we get those years when it does produce some color and then we like to bottle a bit of it. This is from block 554 which is on the southern end of our Mountainside blocks. It sits on a rocky hillside with a small oak tree growing in the middle of it. It's about 2.5 acres planted to clone 362.

Winemaking Notes

The main challenge with Grenache is getting color and ripeness. Once those are achieved, it's a pretty straightforward wine to make. Like all our red wines we destem them into small open top fermenters so that we can control extraction through gentle punch downs. It spends about two weeks in the tank before it's drained down into barrels. In the case of this wine virtually no new oak is used. Oak flavors would interfere with the delicacy of the aroma. The wine rests in barrel for 14 -22 months. In the case of this particular wine it was on the longer side and we bottled it just before the 2011 harvest began. We blended a good portion of Syrah and a touch of Petit Sirah, both from the estate to add a bit more weight and color.

Winemaker Tasting Notes

Like the other 2009 estate red wines this Grenache is evolving beautifully in the bottle. It has medium color density with a pure purple hue. It is perfumed in a masculine sort of way with some resinous floral notes and an herbal hint that is sage like. The predominant fruit aroma is of dried cherry with some fresh raspberry as well. The textures in the mouth are soft and balanced. The fruit sweetness is apparent. The oak notes are muted and overall the impression is one of silkiness. This wine, like Pinot Noir, will show best at the table with food.