



2004 Estate Syrah – *Donna's* *Small Lot Collection*

540 cases produced, \$36/bottle

Release Date 10.16.06

production

This is 100% Santa Rita Hills estate fruit from a 5.6 acre section planted to two clones: Estrella and Clone 1 Shiraz, on three different low-vigor rootstocks. Yields were small at 1.8 lbs./vine (less than 2 tons/acre) and was harvested over a fourteen day period. 90% of the fruit was gently de-stemmed, with 10% remaining as whole-cluster, and fermented in small 1.5 ton open-top fermenters. Total skin contact averaged 35 days (7 day cold soak, 2+weeks fermentation and 1+ week extended maceration.) From the press, the wine was transferred directly into barrel (10% new French oak) where it remained sur lie with no SO2 until May, when it was gently pressure-racked for the first time and prepared for bottling in December. Bottled 12.02.05. 14.9% alcohol.

tasting notes

A deep black, purple iodine hue describes this rich, full-bodied and complex wine that is dominated by a powerful perfume of blackberry, cherry and plum, and is loaded with seasonal spices. Contrasting this attractive nature are notes of star jasmine, violets, fennel, dark chocolate, coffee, black pepper and dried herbs. Texturally, these themes expand more broadly giving the wine both considerable weight and mouthfeel, finishing with an intoxicating display of balance and elegance. Time in the cellar will certainly profit this wine.

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