



BELL

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Syrah 2002 Massa Ranch Yountville Napa Valley

Vineyard

Our 2002 Syrah, Estrella clone, is grown on the Massa Ranch, our neighbors here in Yountville. Proximity to the San Francisco bay and it's moderating influences produces wines deep in color with rich, concentrated fruit flavor and lovely acidity.

Vinification

Syrah grapes were gently crushed to minimize crushing of berries and maximize fruit character. We fermented at 85 degrees-F with a Syrah yeast strain, and extracted color utilizing gentle irrigation over the skins. The wine underwent malo-lactic fermentation and was barrel aged in a combination of French and American oak barrels for 19 months. The wine was not fined and received one filtration prior to bottling. The resulting blend received six months of bottle age prior to release.

Vintage Notes

The 2002 vintage was extremely compressed, and followed a long, cool growing season. A cool Spring saw some frosts in April and this was followed by light rains in May. Following veraison in July, growing conditions were truly ideal with warm days and cool, even cold nights. A few manageable heat spikes in late September and early October brought the fruit to full maturity. A brief heat wave during harvest had growers scrambling but temperatures dropped to season normals and the remaining grapes matured slowly and evenly.

Tasting Notes

Our 2002 Syrah is a rich, powerful wine, with concentrated yet elegant flavors. Deep purple-ruby in color with spicy fruit aromas, the wine has a rich mouthfeel and distinct, yet elegant, tannins. Aging 19 months in French and American oak barrels adds complexity and finesse, without overpowering the supple fruit. With excellent structure and firm tannins anchoring a delicious core of wild berry, blackberry and spice that expands to show vanilla oak and earthy nuances, this wine has a plush, mouth filling texture and a long powerful finish. A great companion to food, this wine will continue to mature gracefully for many years.

Technical Analysis:

Varietal	Syrah, Estrella Clone
Source	Massa Ranch, Yountville, Napa Valley
Harvest Sugar	25.1 Brix
Harvest Acid	0.61 gm/100ml
Total Acid	0.63 gm/100ml
pH	3.83
Alcohol	15.2%
Aging	19 months in French and American Oak
Bottle Date	June 2004
Production	202 Cases

<p>HARVEST DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2002 SUGAR AT HARVEST 25.1 BRIX ACID AT HARVEST 0.61 GM/100ML PH AT HARVEST 3.52 BARRELS 19 MONTHS ALCOHOL 15.20% ACID 0.63 GM/100ML; PH 3.83 BOTTLING DATE: JUNE 2, 2004</p> <p>BOTTLE NUMBER OF 2472</p> <p>ALCOHOL 15.20% BY VOLUME</p>	<p>2002 BELL SYRAH Massa Ranch Yountville</p>	<p>OUR SYRAH IS DEEP IN COLOR, WITH RICH, CONCENTRATED FRUIT FLAVORS ACCENTUATED BY 19 MONTHS AGING IN FRENCH AND AMERICAN OAK BARRELS. THIS WINE WAS NEITHER FINED NOR FILTERED PRIOR TO BOTTLING.</p> <p>707-944-1673 WWW.BELLWINE.COM</p> <p>PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY BELL WINE CELLARS, YOUNTVILLE, CALIFORNIA</p>
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