



2001 SYRAH “CENTRAL COAST”

This wine is 84% Syrah, 7% Mondeuse, 5% Grenache, 3% Mourvèdre and 1% Counoise. It is 49% from Santa Barbara County, 43% from Paso Robles and 89% from the Arroyo Grande Valley. It is a blend of twelve different vineyards in the Central Coast with French Camp (Paso Robles) and Bien Nacido (Santa Maria) the two largest components.

2001 was an outstanding vintage, with almost perfect weather. The warmer Paso Robles fruit gives gobs of round, soft berry fruit. The cooler Santa Barbara and Arroyo Grande components add spice, acidity and depth as well as firm tannic structure.

This is one of the best Central Coast Syrahs we've produced. The unprecedented popularity and growth of new, high quality syrah vineyards throughout the Central Coast has given us better and better grapes to work with.

All lots of this wine were fermented and aged separately. They were blended in stages throughout the year. It was aged eleven months in older neutral barrels (with a few new barrels blended in). 11,500 cases were bottled in August 2002.