



2002 SYRAH “COLSON CANYON VINEYARD”

This wine is 100% Syrah from the Colson Canyon Vineyard, which is located about 8 miles east of Bien Nacido in the northern reaches of the Santa Maria Valley. The original planting at Colson Canyon is an eight acre vineyard planted in a rocky canyon in 1998 by retired doctor Reo Reiswig. Reo added 8 additional acres in 2001 to clone 877 (the original planting is clone 7). It's a breathtaking vineyard site, surrounded by rocky canyon walls in the middle of wilderness— carved out by Reo as a true labor of love.

I bottled some 2000 separately, but was disappointed in the 2001. This 2002 is superb and I think the 2003 barrel is even better.

It was fermented in small open-top fermenters, punched down manually twice a day. Aging was done in French oak barrels (20% new François Frères) for 16 months. Only 3 barrels, 72 cases, were set aside for this bottling. Bottled without fining or filtration in February 2004.

The unique terroir of Colson Canyon is very significant to this wine. It shows classic berries and spice, but with minerals, iodine, mint and black cherry. It's not one of our bigger Syrahs, but has great structure and balance. Drink over the next few years or wait until about 2010 for this wine really to show its stuff.