

BRIDGEVIEW VINEYARDS

"BLACK BEAUTY" SYRAH

VINEYARD

Southern Oregon's Rogue Valley Appellation is considered to be one of the warmest regions in Oregon, making it quite suitable for Rhone varietals like Syrah. While there are several uniquely different microclimates within this Appellation, only the warmest sites produce grapes with rich flavors and outstanding varietal characteristics. For this wine we used fruit from the Applegate Valley, which tends to be a little more fruit forward in style. This creates a wine that has upfront fruit characters yet great complexity and body.

HARVEST

The 2004 growing season for Oregon was a bit of a struggle. A bitterly cold January, a much too warm March, and a very wet May were the start of a series of conditions that led to crop sizes that were roughly half of normal. When Mother Nature gives you only half your crop, she generally also makes sure that the fruit you do have is terrific, as was the case in 2004. Summers in Southern Oregon are very warm, and the short crop allowed the grapes to mature about two weeks earlier than normal. Terrific weather during September and October allowed for additional hang time, which led to beautiful fruit, with nice levels of acidity. Harvest for Syrah began on October 12th. We were very pleased with the grapes from this vintage, we just wish there were more of them!

FERMENTATION AND AGING

The grapes are fermented in open top tanks that allow us to punch down the cap up to 3 times daily. Once the fermentation is over, the fermented skins are pressed gently and the finished young wine is transferred to 100% French oak barrels. After a completed malolactic fermentation, this wine was aged for a total barrel time of 10 months. The wine was bottled unfiltered and released in the Fall of 2005.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Fruit elements of blackberry and some cherry led to a bright juicy mouthfeel with some earthy tones and gentle toasty notes on the finish.

Varietal:	100% Syrah
Appellation:	Southern Oregon
Final pH:	3.60
Titrateable Acidity:	0.55 g/100ml
Residual Sugar:	Dry
Alcohol:	13%
Production:	994 cases



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