



2013 Melville Estate Syrah - Verna's

This is 100% Melville estate fruit from our ranch in Los Alamos and is named in honor of Ron Melville's mother. Verna's Vineyard Syrah is composed of seven different clones: (Estrella, Shiraz 1, Tablas 99, 174, 383, 470 and 877). 30% of the grapes were fermented as whole-cluster with 70% de-stemmed in small 1.5 ton open-top fermenters. Total skin and stem contact averaged 30 days (a 7 day cold soak, 2+ weeks fermentation and 1+ week extended maceration.) From the press, the wine was transferred directly into neutral (old French oak) where it remained sur lie without sulfur until May, when it was racked for the first time and prepared for bottling in August. Yields were 3.8 lbs/vine (3.5 tons/acre).

Parker: 93 points – Jeb Dunnuck

Vinous: 92 points – Antonio Galloni

Wine Enthusiast: 94 points – Matt Kettmann

Top 100 Wines of the year #32

Tasting Notes: Dark mulberry in color, savory nuances of ham hock, saddle leather, venison jerky and mortadella spring from the glass. In the background, dense and dark fruit notes of blackberry preserves, plum skin and mincemeat intermingle with impressions of orange zest, nutmeg, black tea and menthol. The mouthfeel is creamy and polished with fine tannins that coat the mouth through the wines' plush and lengthy finish.

100% Syrah

Clones: Estrella, Shiraz 1, Tablas 99, 174, 383, 470 and 877

30% whole cluster fermented

Neutral barrel (5-20 year old French oak barrels)

Alcohol 14.0%

Cases Produced: 2,775

Release Date: 11.12.2014