

AUSTIN HOPE

Syrah 2010

Hope Family Vineyard, Paso Robles

Vineyard Notes

The 2010 Austin Hope Syrah is grown on the Hope Family Vineyard, which is located just 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean in the Templeton Gap region – just west of Paso Robles. The site's rocky soils of clay and limestone make it ideal for the Rhône varietals to which it is planted. A variety of syrah clones are planted in separate blocks in the vineyard, all of which are high-density spaced, ranging from 1750 to 2400 plants per acre. The vines are managed carefully to keep cluster counts low, resulting in fruit with great intensity and rich berry flavors.

Harvest Notes

The 2010 growing season began with heavy rainfall which resulted in the vines flourishing. A long summer that didn't experience the extreme temperatures we usually see brought healthy, but slightly lower yields. Interestingly, the harvest was filled with extremes: it provided both unusually high and low temperatures, wind and rain. The grapes heartily weathered the elements until the harvest crews arrived. These unusual events required some maneuvering and patience, but caused few issues other than stressful nights.

Winemaking Notes

Three syrah clones make up the 2010 blend – 383, 470 and Alban. Grapes were hand-picked and fermented separately by vineyard block, in five-ton, open-top tanks. After fermentation, and pump-overs for color and tannin extraction, the wines were aged for nine months in new French oak barrels separately by vineyard block. The barrel program is a mixture of Seguin Moreau, Radoux, and Remond. The final blend was assembled and then placed back into barrels for three more months prior to bottling in January 2012.

Tasting Notes

The 2010 Austin Hope Syrah displays a deeply concentrated purple color with aromas of blueberry, cherry and hints of spice and wild herbs. Fresh, juicy berries, plum and red cherry emerge on the palate, balanced by notes of smoked meat and chocolate. A round mouthfeel leads to a lush, elegant finish.

Vineyard: Hope Family Vineyard
Appellation: Paso Robles
Harvest Dates: Oct, 11/12 and Oct, 18/19
Production: 2,350 six-bottle cases



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