



2009 SV HAWKES BAY SYRAH 'CHALK RIDGE'

Winemakers Notes

This wine is from our Chalk Ridge block, just to the south of Havelock North. It is a steep, north facing amphitheatre that is strewn with fossilised limestone. We only use the ripest fruit from the top of the hill to craft our SV Syrah. A tiny amount of Viognier (1.05%) from the same block was co-fermented with the Syrah to add fragrance and complexity and to help fix the colour. Vintage 2009 was a stunner and the vineyard was in excellent condition at harvest. The wine spent 14 months in French oak (about 25% new) before assemblage and bottling

Analysis

Alc 13.5 % **Acid** 5.4 g/L **Res Sugar** 3g/L **pH** 3.72

Tasting Notes

Colour: A beautiful deep purple/red, with a dense, dark core and bright, flashing purple rim.
Bouquet: The essence of Hawkes Bay Syrah: masses of black fruits, a touch of pepper, some meatiness and lovely, savoury oak.
Palate: A beautifully structured wine. Medium to full bodied with silken tannins and great length. The fruit in the mid palate lasts and lasts

Cellaring

Already approachable, but we expect this wine to cellar for a number of years.

Food Matches

The soft tannins, ripe fruit flavours, black pepper and spice make this wine a great accompaniment to many meat dishes such as lamb, venison, beef and game. The bolder and more complex style means that it will stand up to richer flavours and accompaniments.

Suggested wine list description

A rich and full-bodied wine full of dark fruit flavours with lashings of black pepper and a long savoury finish.

Independent Reviewer's Comment

"It's sweet-scented on the nose displaying dark plum, blueberry, spice and cedary oak characters. The palate is concentrated and silky with a rounded mouthfeel and plenty of supple tannins. An immediately appealing wine with potential to develop rich complexity." SK

Awards

Five Stars – Wine Orbit, December 2010

Silver Medal – Royal Easter Show Wine Awards 2011

Silver Medal – Spiegelau International Wine Competition 2011

Silver Medal – Air NZ Wine Awards 2010