

Proprietor Selected
SPECIAL CUVÉE

Elizabeth Spencer

ROSÉ OF SYRAH
SONOMA COAST

Vintage 2008

12 Barrels

Produced & Bottled by Elizabeth Spencer Wines

APPELLATION: SONOMA COAST
VARIETAL BLEND: 100% SYRAH
PRODUCTION: 12 BARRELS
WINEMAKER: MATTHEW RORICK & SPENCER GRAHAM

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Rose pink in color, with highlights of fuchsia. Pleasant aromatic notes of strawberries, flint, summer melon, and bay. Flavors of starfruit, wild strawberry, lavender, white pepper and ruby grapefruit overlay sparkling acidity, leading to a refreshing, clean finish.

WINEMAKING

The Syrah grapes for our 2008 rosé were picked slightly earlier than the grapes which would become our Sonoma Coast Syrah. This enabled us to preserve many of the lovely aromatics and flavors which contribute to the allure of this wine, as well as preserving the brilliant natural acidity. Upon arriving at the winery, these grapes were whole cluster pressed and cold fermented, again, to ensure that the characteristic Syrah aromatics were preserved. After judicious but brief lees contact we bottled the wine after four months in tank, capturing the bright and fresh nature of the wine for you in bottle.

VINEYARDS

Our Syrah grapes are sourced from a vineyard north of San Pablo Bay outside the town of Petaluma in southern Sonoma County. Cooling influences from the nearby bay converge with those from the Pacific coast to create a particularly cool mesoclimate, one which allows for gradual and complete development of flavors and aromas.

VINTAGE

The 2008 growing season was an arduous one for most northern California grape growers. A dry winter prompted an earlier break bud than normal, leaving the developing vineyards vulnerable to the potential of damaging frosts, however our Syrah vineyard was not adversely affected. The vines enjoyed a slow, even ripening period. We harvested during the second week of September once the grapes reached ripeness with an ideal balance and structure.

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