



2003 SYRAH, MOREHOUSE VINEYARD
SANTA YNEZ VALLEY



A 15-year old vineyard in the Santa Ynez Valley, Morehouse sits on a somewhat terraced slope and is located off of Highway 246 between Santa Ynez and Solvang. This is our first release from Morehouse, which we think is our most intriguing vineyard.

I feel that the 2003 Morehouse Syrah is one of the best and most unique, "Terroir" driven wines I've ever made. Its deep red and purple tones have garnet hues around the edges. The nose is intense with great complexity. Aromas include lots of floral notes with sweet red cherries, blackberries, licorice notes and red pepper corns with a hint of smoke. The palate consists of rich flavors with suggestions of cherry cobbler and marmalade with luscious tannins that make for a long finish. Enjoy with barbecued meats.

The thin clay loam over limestone soils at Morehouse make these vines really work to produce fruit, and yielded an incredibly small harvest of 1.4 tons per acre – miniscule for Syrah. The small 1.8 acre vineyard is all planted to the Durell clone of Syrah, on 5C rootstock. Spacing is tight at one vine every 4 feet, with an 8 foot row. The vines have been retrained to a vertical trellis position, and they are spur-pruned on a south-facing slope. We harvested the fruit on October 15th at about 25.7 degrees brix, pH of 3.66 and TA of 7.7grams per liter.

Arriving at the winery, the grapes were de-stemmed and allowed a short cool-soak in small fermenters before beginning fermentation. The wine has hand punched down once or twice per day, depending upon the temperature of the wine and the way it tasted as it progressed. Once primary fermentation had finished, the wine was hand pressed in our basket press, allowed to settle for a few days and then racked into 100% French oak barrels for 11 months.

Technical Specifications

Barrels :	50% 2-yr old French oak, 50% 3-yr old French oak	Bottled:	August, 2004
Alcohol:	14.7% by volume	Released:	April, 2005
TA:	7.0 grams/liter	Production:	150 cases (750ml x 12)
pH:	3.72	Price :	\$35.00/bottle