

2010 *Knights Valley*
Obsidian Vineyard Syrah

We cannot think of another vineyard (besides maybe Richards) that is so driven by the environment the vines are planted as Obsidian. The confluence of rocks, breezes, vine age, and the fact that few places like this in California are planted to Syrah truly results in a unique expression of Syrah. Fleshier than 2009, the 2010 still maintains strong scaffolding awaiting more development to fill out the wine. The finish is long, very long, and invites a meal with strong flavors and rich textures.

Vineyard Notes:

Location

Obsidian Syrah Vineyard is one of the most unique places we cultivate. A 30+ year old vineyard that grows on a steep perch rising above the Franz Valley floor in Knight's Valley, Obsidian seems to want for water even amid rainstorms. The vines struggle mightily to produce canes and leaves, the berries are tiny, and without dropping any fruit yields are unbelievably low and flavor concentration ethereal.

Harvest Dates

October 15, 2010

Cellar Notes:

Wine

Like the 2009, the 2010 took time to reveal its aromas - only recently have things like tobacco, violet, licorice, cherries, and chocolate begun to emerge. Consistent with previous examples of Obsidian - confirming the power of the terroir - the palate is supple and incredibly structured.

Percentage New Oak

50%

Barrel Aging

24 months

Bottling Date

September 14, 2012

Composition

100% Syrah

Alcohol

14.3%

Production

385 cases



Rhone Report: 98 pts