

2011 Sonoma County
Venus Roussanne

The Roussanne ripened in its typical slow, cool fashion. Lower yields in 2011 and slightly warmer weather almost imperceptibly increased the complexity and richness of this wine. Still incredibly delicate, the aromas seem a bit richer with lemon rind and freesia combined with a touch of tropical fruit. Additionally there are hints of spice and almost nuttiness (no, there is no new oak!). The 2011 shines on the palate, if the aromas are a touch more closed, the mouth feel epitomizes Roussanne's paradoxical ability: at once broad, rich, fresh, and low in alcohol. If the aromas don't entice another glass, the mouthfeel will have you finishing the bottle!

Vineyard Notes:

Location

Sonoma County, primarily from the cool Bennett Valley. We've seen Bennett valley create its own fog on a clear dewy morning, keeping the area quite cool on an otherwise clear day. Alcohols are excitingly and naturally low: usually less than 13% potential at harvest.

Harvest Dates

October 10 - 18, 2011

Cellar Notes:

Winemaking

Limited, but some skin contact, stainless steel and oak barrels, and no new oak during aging to aid the freshness of the wine. Given Roussanne's penchant for richness, we avoid stirring and excessive lees contact.

Wine

Prettiness. What else can I say? Pretty, subtle, aromatic and fresh. Its depth makes you want more; its prettiness keeps you light on your feet.

Percentage New Oak

0%

Composition

98% Roussane, 2% Viognier

Barrel Aging

18 months

Alcohol

12.5%

Bottling Date

March 29, 2013

Production

165 cases



Wine Advocate: 91 pts