

2017 Bennett Valley Judge Vineyard Syrah

This wine can be described in three words: distinctive, aromatic, and expressive. Located in Bennett Valley, this vineyard is meticulously cared for, with its owner/farmers living on the property. As one of our coolest Syrah sites, Judge Vineyard allows for ample hang time increasing fruit concentration and providing the tannins that give the Syrah its signature velvety tannins.

The Judge Vineyard lies in the most northwestern portion of Bennett Valley. The surrounding area comprised of gravely loam and larger rocks undulates across the land in swales and berms. Due to the cooler temperature, it is not uncommon for the nighttime fog to not recede to the coast until late morning. We pull fruit from three distinct blocks, each planted to a unique clone of Syrah. This melange of clones allows for vineyard built-in complexity. Each clone is fermented and aged separately with a percentage of whole cluster and cooperage matched specifically to optimize balance of flavor.

The key to enjoying this wine is giving it time in the glass, where its many layers of fruit and textured tannins can be played out in acts throughout the night. On the palate, it's a flavorful surprise as the acidity softens the bold, spicy flavors. The finish is long, dense, and just as flavorful as the first sup. Like an iron fist in a velvet glove, this vintage of Judge Vineyard Syrah offers the perfect blend of fruit concentration and tannin structure.

Cellar Notes:

Percentage New Oak

35%

Barrel Aging

22 months

Bottling Date

July 2019

Composition

100% Syrah

Alcohol

14.7%

Production

215 cases

~43% Whole Cluster · Native Ferment/Native ML

