



2013 DARIEN VINEYARD

Syrah, Russian River Valley, Sonoma



VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Tucked into the gently rolling hills of Sonoma's Russian River Valley, Darien Vineyard enjoys a moderate climate and well-drained, loamy soils. The Syrah vines were planted in 2000 and 2001, and benefit from cool, foggy mornings that give way to warm afternoon sun from the southeast, allowing the exposed fruit to ripen evenly. The clusters tend to be fairly long in size and tightly packed. There are two different clones planted in the vineyard, each contributing its own unique flavors to the wine. Nickel & Nickel selects fruit from three-and three-quarter acres of the 25-acre vineyard.

HARVEST NOTES

The growing season this year began 10 days ahead of last year, with bloom occurring mid-May and veraison in late July. Moderate weather during bloom produced a larger crop, which we adjusted later in the season. Cool, foggy mornings and sunny, warm afternoons over the summer allowed the fruit to ripen evenly, leading to a night-harvest in late September.

SENSORY EVALUATION

Syrah is naturally dark in color, and the 2013 Darien Vineyard Syrah is ink in the glass. This wine opens with wild berries and spice aromas. Juicy plum, boysenberry, leather and anise are rich on the palate, melding with understated meat and char notes. The velvety texture and the balanced acidity support the fruit flavors through the long finish.

APPELLATION
Russian River Valley, Sonoma

VARIETAL
100% Syrah

AGING
French oak barrels
(45% new, 55% once-used)

RELEASE DATE
March 2016

HARVEST DATE
September 30, 2013

SKIN CONTACT
10 days

TIME
17 months

FIRST VINTAGE
2002