



Vellutini Ranch Syrah
Russian River Valley
2009

Vineyard Character

This Syrah vineyard is two acres in size, planted in 2000 with clone 470. It sits on the western edge of the Russian River Valley on a north east slope, which receives the first ray of early morning sunshine. The Vellutini Ranch vineyards are bordered on the east by Jackass Hill and on the south by Jackass Vineyard, sharing the same Franciscan soil type.

The Vellutini Ranch vineyard is trained on a vertical trellis system with the fruit hanging just 24 inches above the ground. The grapes are thinned down to between two and three pounds of fruit per vine. The grapes are picked between 25 and 26 degrees brix. After picking, the whole berries undergo a long cool fermentation to generate skin contact and expose fruit character and are fermented with wild yeast. The juice is transferred to oak barrels with a touch of residual sugar remaining to complete the fermentation process in barrel until dry. It rests in 90% new French oak on its gross lees for ten months.

Case Production: 149

Tasting Notes

The Vellutini Ranch Syrah has flavors of mocha and powdered mint chocolate along with rich blueberry and black current. Aromas include cocoa, molasses, and leather.

Historical Acclaim

2007 Vintage

- 92 points. Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

Winemaker: Bryan Kvamme

Consulting Winemaker: Helen Turley