

DONKEY & GOAT



## 2010 Grenache Noir, El Dorado

For years we've blended all of the Grenache Noir into our Thirteen Series but with 2010 we finally have enough to go around. This is an El Dorado blend of Grenache from Fenaughty, Swansboro and Lightner vineyards and will simply shine on the outdoor table on a warm summer night or next to the fireplace on a cool fall evening.

Appellation: El Dorado	Harvested: October 8, 2010
Vineyard: Fenaughty, Swansboro, and Lightner	Pressed: October 28, 2010
Varietal: Grenache	Blend: 92% Grenache, 8% Mourvedre
Clone: Mostly Tablas Creek	Maceration: 15 days
Age: 4 to 12 years	Barrel aging: 8 months in neutral FO barrels
Elevation: 2,600 to 3,200 feet	Bottled: Unfiltered on May 15, 2011
Soil: Decomposed granite, red clay and loam	Production: 195 cases
Yield: 2-3 tons/acre	Release date: Summer 2011

### **TASTING NOTES:**

Bright red fruits led by early summer strawberry, fresh bing cherries mix with wild herbs and a hint of Mourvedre. . Unlike many Grenaches, this wine is light on its feet, mixing a heady nose, with both fruit and minerals in the body.

### **WINEMAKING NOTES:**

When we take visitors to our various vineyards in El Dorado, many are surprised to see our Grenache, growing in a traditional manner, without a trellis system. Instead of training the vines to follow a wire, these vines are allowed to grow as a bush. This naturally lowers our per a vine yield and consistently provides better fruit intensity without unreasonably high sugar or low acidity. In some spots, the vines are spaced with 5 feet by 5 feet spacing, further intensify the flavors while minimizing sugar. Efforts in the vineyard pay off in the winery with a traditionally made Grenache. De-stemmed and whole cluster are mixed in a 5 ton wood fermenter (5500 L) and allowed to ferment naturally. As in all of our wines, nothing is added – no commercial yeast, no nutrients, no additives. JUST Grapes. After fermentation, the wine was pressed to French Oak and aged for six months. This bottling is a select set of barrels exhibiting the youthful energy we wanted to capture in bottle. After tasting our Grenache, Jon Bonne, wine writer for the *San Francisco Chronicle* tweeted that we were the "Grenache Whispers".

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