



Jeff Runquist Wines

2011 “R” SYRAH, Paso Robles, California



For over twenty years I have had the pleasure of producing Syrah from Paso Robles. Syrah is particularly well suited to the Paso Robles region in California's Central Coast. The thin soils, warm climate and cool nights of the Estrella River Plain, help tame the vigorous nature of this grape variety and the resulting wines have deep flavors and good concentration. During my tenure as winemaker for J. Lohr Winery, I identified three exceptional vineyards and it is these growers that provide us with the grapes for “R” Syrah. As a result of these multiple sources, Syrah is one of only three of our wines not to carry a specific vineyard designation

The 2011 vintage has a deep purple color accompanied by bright garnet hues. One sniff identifies this wine as a ‘New World’ Syrah. The aromas of the 2011 Syrah feature bright red and black fruits; dark cherry, boysenberry and black raspberry. The earthy terroir-driven aromas, common in ‘Old World’ Syrah, are so subtle as to be non-existent in the 2011 “R” Syrah. The bouquet features a unique smoky scent that comes from barrels toasted over a hickory generated flame. On the palate, succulent juicy flavors of red and black fruits mingle with those of flint and mineral. While the tannins of the 2011 wine are moderate in volume, the texture remains soft and supple. The varietal character of Syrah has the last word and contributes a chalky edge to the finish. I am not one to suggest wine and food pairings, but short-ribs braised in a liquid featuring wild mushrooms is my favorite with Syrah.

Varietal Composition: 100 % Syrah

14.2% Alc. 0.73 g/100ml TA 3.45 pH

Oak Regime: 72% American Oak 28% French Oak

Released: March 1, 2013 487 Cases Produced

Producers of Vineyard Designated Red Table Wines