



2009 ARATAS Napa Valley Petite Sirah

This is the encore vintage of Aratas from our vineyard in the Oak Knoll AVA planted in 2001 to just 1.4 with an additional + .2 acres grafted to Petite a couple years later. A cool spring and heavy rains in February nudged bud break into mid- April, bloom in May following late spring rains which nudged veraison into early August. An even warm up with a just a few welcome spikes of heat balanced several courses of thinning which produced even clusters and a near perfect climax for harvest in mid- October. This vineyard produces beautiful fruit that was held in cold soak for 5 days then fermented on native yeasts in small open top fermentation tanks for tannin management. Aged for almost 2 years in Hungarian and French oak barrels then bottled unfiltered and unfiltered in August of 2011.

Winemaker Notes

"The 2009 Aratas is both massive and seductive. At its core, it possesses an opaque purple-colored density, an excellent representation of a pure Petite Sirah. It is tremendously perfumed, offering up scents of white flowers, licorice, cassis, blackberries and sweet dark roasted espresso. This is a dense, full-bodied and evolved wine that has the ability to age for decades.

Drink or hold until 2027."

Winemaker, Mike Drash

Vintners, Stephanie Douglas, John & Mickey Chohany

Harvest: October 10, 2009

Oak Knoll AVA, alluvial gravel and clay loam

40% new Trust Hungarian Oak M+ Francois Ferre French oak M

15.2% Alc/Vol PH 3.74 TA5.4

\$45 bottle (750ml) \$110 Collector's Edition 1.5L 503 cases produced

92 Points/ WINE SPECTATOR (M.W.) San Francisco Chronicle Competition "DOUBLE GOLD"

"Top Rhone Wines of California" WS

www.AratasWine.com