

Domaine de la Terre Rouge

TERRE ROUGE® AND EASTON WINES



TERRE ROUGE®
CALIFORNIA

SYRAH

LES CÔTES DE L'OUEST

PRODUCED & BOTTLED BY DOMAINE DE LA TERRE ROUGE,
PLYMOUTH, CALIFORNIA. ALC. 14.5% BY VOL.

2006 Terre Rouge Syrah, Les Côtes de l'Ouest

This is the ninth vintage of our entry level, St. Joseph-like, Syrah. It is made from fruit grown at a superb vineyard site that is planted in the hills just west of the Amador County line, just a few miles from the Mokelumne River in Clements Hills (a new Lodi sub-appellation). Tight spacing, vertical trellising, and upward shoot positioning give the fruit maximum sun exposure to promote full flavor development. We chose this site because of its' impeccable management and the grower's willingness to green harvest to reduce crop. This increases concentration and intensity of flavor. The soils are sandy clay and the climate is moderated by Delta cooling. We find the wine is very forward and drinkable shortly after bottling making it a great everyday Syrah and perfect as a restaurant glass pour. This 2006 vintage is exceedingly dark in color with rich, silky wild raspberry fruit flavors laced with pepper, tar, and herb tones. Aromas are raspberry, smoky, wild gamey, peppery, and cinnamon. The wine has a clean purity of Syrah fruit that is reminiscent of many St. Joseph's and other Northern Rhône's. It has full forward fruit and great acid balance. It is very smooth and creamy in the mouth.

Harvested a week earlier this year, on the 15th & 16th of September 2006 at 25.0° brix in this mildly warm year. Lightly crushed and fermented in our larger tanks and irrigated to minimize tannin extraction and aged 17 months in 20% new and 80% used French oak barrels. Bottled in late February 2008. We think it is the best Syrah on the market in California for under 20 bucks!

14.5% alcohol by vol.; 3.65 pH; 6.5 gm./liter total acidity

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