



2009 Los Olivos Cuvée

This wine is 47% syrah, 29% mourvedre and 24% grenache, all from grapes grown in the Los Olivos area of the Santa Ynez Valley. The syrah and mourvedre are from the Ibarra-Young vineyard, a vineyard that we've leased and farmed ourselves since 1986 (and since 1999 has been farmed organically). The grenache is from the Purisima Mountain Vineyard which is farmed and certified biodynamic. The grapes were all harvested separately beginning with the syrah on September 12th and finishing with the grenache on October 23rd. The grapes were fermented in small open top fermenters and then aged in neutral French oak barrels for 16 months. Blending was done at the second racking just before the 2010 harvest. This is the classic Southern Rhone blend, though those wines would be dominated by grenache. Grown in a cooler climate than the Southern Rhone, this is a more elegant expression of these varieties. Wild cherries aromas with hints of smoke and meat from the mourvedre, all at a mind pleasing 13.4% alcohol. Only 188 cases of this special wine were bottled to be sold primarily through the tasting room and to a few local accounts.