

Edgefield 2009 Cuvee de L'Abri Rouge

(Blend of the Red Shed- 'coo-VAY day la Bree Rooj')

Del Rio Vineyard



Release date: December 7th, 2010

Production: 482 cases
3.72 pH
5.9 TA
12.9% ALCOHOL

Blend: 50% Merlot, 47% Syrah, 3% Viognier

Tasting Notes: This vintage of the Cuvée marks a change in the blend, featuring Merlot in place of the Grenache. The fall of '09 proved too much for the Grenache at Del Rio; the fruit was too damaged by an early fall frost to pick. However, the slightly cooler growing season in Southern Oregon led both the Merlot and Syrah to express similar flavors as in prior vintages of Cuvée. The nose is bursting with bright red and blue fruits aromas of raspberries, cherries and blueberries, with hints of cedar, fresh peppermint and a touch of chocolate. On the palate it is light to medium in body, with delicate tannins and refreshing acidity. The flavors on the palate are primarily red fruits with hints of anise.

Fun Facts: What exactly does Cuvée (coo-VAY) mean? According to The Oxford Companion to Wine, a cuvée is “any containerful, or lot, of wine”. It comes from the root “cuve” which is the French term for any contain or vessel for wine storage. Essentially, a cuvée can mean many different things, from a single varietal wine from a particular barrel to any number of different types of blends. For the Edgefield Cuvée de l'Abri Rouge, it means a soft, easy drinking blend, light in body and fruit forward, which is usually produced from a blend of Syrah and Grenache grapes, but can feature any number of varieties that create a wine that is consistent in style.