



2010 Vintage Notes

The thrill of growing your own estate fruit is tempered by the fact that your site might lack complexity. Shake Ridge Vineyard is not that vineyard – we have hillsides facing every direction, swales to carry cold air throughout the vineyard, a chaos of soil types, which all demanded a veritable patchwork of tiny vineyard blocks. However we still designed the vineyard to instill as much variation as possible and our two blocks of Barbera at Shake Ridge Vineyards are prime examples. By using two different Italian clones, on two different rootstocks and planting in two very different soils with varying aspects, we succeeded. The first three harvests, we kept the blocks separate to understand their characters; each distinct, both equally desirable. After that we were very comfortable bringing these two different lots together at fermentation, melding them together into this fascinating wine.

One of the Barbera blocks is quite steep, and a late season heat spike in 2010 determined that we needed to harvest the top half before those clusters went past their 'prime' while the lower section was still going through an edgy green phase. So two harvests, giving us two fermentation lots, which added a whole new layer of complexity.

The result is a beautiful palette of blue tone fruits, plums and blueberries, layered with nuances of spices and the earthiness this variety is famous for. The bright acidity pairs with a roundness and softness that is downright plush. This 'yummy' Barbera has the balance to pair with a wide range of food – from burgers to pasta salads, and best yet, fresh mozzarella and ripe tomatoes straight from your garden. Enjoy!!

The Details

Selections: Italian CVTS 84 and 171

Rootstocks: 110R and 3309

Vineyard Planted: 2003

Vine Spacing: 5' x 8'

Harvest Date: Sept 25 and Oct 5

Yield: 4.4 tons per acre

Retail: \$30 per bottle

Fermentation: Open top, 1 ton lots

Aging: 11 mo. French Oak, 6% new

Bottled: August 25, 2011

Alcohol: 14.5% pH: 3.5 TA: 7.2 g/l

Harvest Brix: 26.2

Production: 448 cases

Release Date: March 2015