

JUSTIN *Production Notes*



*Seamless elegance from
start to finish*

Appellation: Paso Robles
Composition: 65% Cabernet Franc,
35% Merlot
Bottling Data:
pH: 3.66
Total Acidity: 0.66 g/100ml
Alcohol: 14.5% by volume
Bottling Period: 4/19/2009
Release Date: August 1, 2009

2007 JUSTIFICATION

Philosophy

This has become one of JUSTIN's iconic wines in a very brief time. It is a unique blend inspired by the Bordeaux "right-bank" regions of St. Emilion and Pomerol, where very little cabernet sauvignon is grown due to soil and drainage conditions. JUSTIN has always been "justifiably" proud of the excellent cabernet franc on our property, and our small plots of merlot give it just the right richness of fruit in a serious and cellarable wine. It offers a touch more elegance than our complementary ISOSCELES blend, and sees a briefer time in French-only oak as well.

Vintage Summary

The 2007 growing season began with a cold, dry winter, resulting in an early bud-break. Spring remained dry and warm, providing a consistent climate for canopy growth. In early summer, the soils were depleted of their water holding capacity, naturally reducing yields by 30%. A mild, early summer eventually turned hot. Consistent temperatures in the mid 90's ripened fruit consistently throughout the harvest season. White grapes, sauvignon blanc first, started to come in by mid-August, and the first picking of black grapes initiated the busiest portion of the harvest in September, carrying through to late October when the last of the cabernet sauvignon lots arrived. The well-paced nature of the harvest season allowed excellent fermentation vessel rotation and the net result is one of the finest vintages we have had yet.

Harvest Notes

Harvest Period: 9/10 – 10/29/07

Average Brix at Harvest: 25.9° Brix

Vinification:

Fermentation: Stainless steel, 8-12 days with UV-43 yeast

Pump-overs: 2 times daily during fermentation

Maceration: 14 – 21 days including fermentation

Maturation: 18 months in 225L French oak barrels (Allier, Nevers);
47% new barrels

Tasting Notes

Color: Deep ruby-garnet

Aroma: Currant, black tar, leather, and cedar

Palate: Red currant, blackberry, cedar, and caramel, with slightly dusty tannins from the cabernet franc and vibrant fruit from the merlot



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