

JUSTIN *Production Notes*



*A spicy personality with a bit
of a soft side*

Appellation: Paso Robles

Composition: Zinfandel

Bottling Data:

pH: 3.72

Total Acidity: 0.69 g/100ml

Alcohol: 15.0% by volume

Bottling Date: 3/18/2010

Release Date: April 1, 2010

2008 ZINFANDEL

Artist Series Label

For every new vintage, we celebrate the differences nature brings us by commissioning a different artist to create the art portion of our label for all our varietally labeled wines. Our objective is for the artist's interpretation of the winery to give visual embellishment to the exciting liquid within. Although we only slightly modify our vineyard practices and winemaking techniques from year to year, each year our wines express uniquely the style and careful selection within that vintage. Art is very much part of the JUSTIN brand, and of the way we grow and make wine.

Vintage Summary

The 2008 growing season began with a wet winter that warmed up quickly. Mid-March bud-break prompted early concerns about frost. Indeed, frost struck parts of Paso Robles and the rest of coastal California on April 22. Spring continued dry and warm, spiking unseasonably high in mid-May, and then changing weather patterns weekly. These conditions in some vineyards caused "shatter," also known as "coulure," with crop loss due to flowers that would otherwise become grapes falling off the shoots. This reduced yields by up to 50% in some vineyards. Summer brought typical consistent warm, dry days with cool nights, and no heat spikes. The mild summer allowed the reduced crop to ripen evenly, and picking was determined by flavor profiles in the individual vineyards. All grapes were hand-harvested over a seven week period, and clusters were hand sorted for consistency.

Harvest Notes

Harvest Period: 10/16/2008

Average Brix at Harvest: 24.8° Brix

Vinification:

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

Pump-overs: 2 times daily during fermentation

Maceration: 21- 24 days including fermentation

Maturation: 18 months in 225L French oak barrels (Allier, Nevers);
33% new French oak

Tasting Notes

Color: Bright cherry red with a blood red rim.

Aroma: Sage, raspberry, and a touch of a floral potpourri component.

Palate: Flavors of dried cranberry, strawberry, black cherry, and cinnamon, with balanced acidity and soft tannins.



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