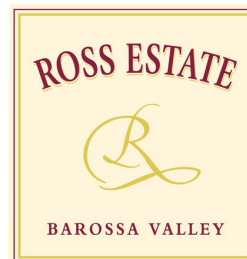




Ross Estate Grenache 2006

Wine Maker: Neville Falkenberg
Appellation: Barossa Valley
Varietal: 95% Grenache, 5% Shiraz
Yields per Acre: 2 T/Acre
Cases Produced: 1000
Filtration and fining: Rough pad filter
Wood treatment: 75% seasoned French, 25% seasoned American
Length of barrel maturation: 11 months

Alcohol %: 14.8%
Total Acid: 6.8
Free/Total Sulfur: 30/76
pH: 3.35
Residual Sugar: 2.1



UPC#: 840700000609

Viticultural Practices: The grapes for this wine come from the oldest vines on the Estate at 94 years of age. Making this truly an OLD VINE GRENACHE. The 2006 vintage started with warm days in early summer allowing the grapes to produce intense flavour and colour early in the season which then turned cooler, resulting in good natural acid retention and a long ripening period. The grapes were hand harvested in the last week of march and crushed into open fermentes. They were pumped over twice daily during the cool fermentation temperature of 24-26 degrees to retain fruit intensity and colour. Once fermentation was complete the skins were pressed in our air-bag press and this portion blended with the free-run, before being transferred to seasoned barrels to complete malolactic fermentation. These barrels were racked twice during the wine's 11-month maturation phase before being roughly filtered. The wine was bottled on the Estate on our own bottling line, under screw cap closures to retain the freshness of the wine.

Wine Makers Notes: Crimson red in colour with purple hues. The intense nose has violet floral aromas, with rich Satsuma plums, raspberries and raisins. These flavours continue onto the palate, which also offers some well-integrated smoky oak and spice characters that continue well through the long finish. The supple tannins add weight to the palate and carry the fruit and acid structure of this elegant example of truly old vine Grenache

Scores: 91 pts Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar (JR) - Bright red. Spicy strawberry and raspberry aromas are pure and straightforward. Deeper cherry and black raspberry flavors are enlivened by juicy acidity, with an exotic floral pastille note arriving on the long, sappy, firm finish. Lovely right now, but has the concentration to last for at least another few years. These vines are reportedly nearly a century old.

90 pts Robert Parker, Jr. #173 - Purple-colored with a fragrant bouquet of kirsch, black raspberry, and clove. Ripe and sweet on the palate with very good flavors, it is slightly compact in the finish. Drink this tasty Grenache over the next 6-8 years.

90 pts Wine Spectator Magazine - Polished, silky and graceful, with smoky cherry and red plum flavors cascading along a sleek frame. A charming wine that has some extra oomph on the finish. Drink now through 2013. 1,000 cases made.
