

# 2013 Syrah Paso Robles

## *Sensory Notes*

A well-structured wine, our 2013 Syrah expresses compelling nuances of ripe blackberry and cocoa with a touch of smoke and spice. The deep dark ruby-red color hints at the opulent fruit flavors of blackberry, plum and black cherry which lead to a rich, mouth-watering finish.

## *Vintage Notes*

The 2013 vintage was a challenging season in Paso Robles. We began our spring with marginal moisture, the product of nonexistent winter rains. This daunting start was followed by a gentle spring with mild temperatures through April and May that gave us a great start to the growing season. The cool temperatures and seasonable conditions gave us excellent flowering and fruit set circumstances that resulted in a normal cluster count. From here our temperatures climbed, giving us one big heat spike in July before moderating to normal temperatures to finish the summer. Crop water and vine growth were managed by careful timing of irrigation. Very little thinning of the crop was required because the lack of winter rain kept the berry size in check. Following summer we moved into a vigorous harvest season that presented perfect conditions for excellent ripening at a brisk rate resulting in amazing depth of color and wonderful flavor maturity.

Our 2013 Syrah is a product of Paso Robles grown across the appellation. The bulk of the fruit from two of our Hall Ranch vineyards; the majority originates in the stony decomposed granite soils of our "Bench Vineyard," the next component is crafted from the loamy soils of the "Terrace Vineyard." The combination of these two vineyards, and others located south of the winery, yields a wine that shows the rich opulence of Syrah brought to rich maturity in the rolling hills of Paso Robles.

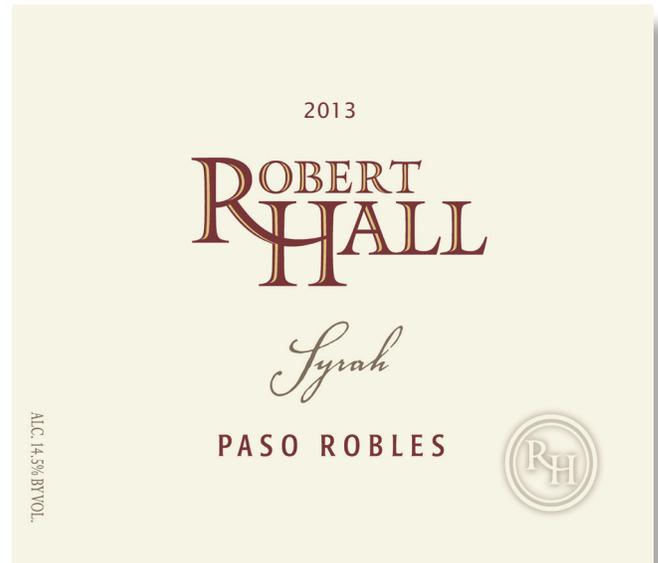
## *Winemaker's Notes*

Our 2013 Syrah comes from grapes picked in late-September. Maceration lasted 8 days and was assisted by traditional hand pump-over to amplify color and flavor release. Subsequent to fermentation, the wine was drawn off and the skins pressed. After a short settling period, the wine was racked into French and Eastern European oak barrels where it completed malolactic fermentation and matured for 18 months. Prior to bottling the wine received a final racking to stainless steel where the blend was assembled in preparation for bottling.

## *Wine Facts*

Blend: 86% Syrah  
8% Grenache  
5% Petite Sirah  
1% Mourvedre

Total acidity: .62%  
pH: 3.71  
Alcohol: 14.5%  
Bottled: May 2015



*"The Essence of Paso Robles"™*

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