

2009 Vagabond Syrah

Varietal Content:

100% Syrah

Barrel Regime: 20 months in new and used French oak. Twenty percent of this Syrah was barrel fermented in new Taransaud oak.

Alcohol: 14.8% **TA:** 0.65 g/100ml

pH: 3.74

Vineyard Source: The Caldwell vineyard in the Coombsville AVA.

Tasting Notes: Black olives, grilled herbs, and hints of fennel all come alive in the glass. The outstanding 2009 vintage stands out for its depth, textural richness and structure. The palate shows specific varietal definition and nuance in its black pepper, dark red fruit, and spice-box.

Connoisseurs' Guide to California Wines, July, 2012 Rating: 92 Two Stars

Big, bold and outgoing with lots of Syrah spice and a clear bent to ripeness, this fleshy, very full-bodied effort counts richness rather than finesse as its principal gift. Enriched with lavish oak at every stop, it makes up in mouthfilling flavor and muscle for what it might lack in nuance, and it is so very deep that we can only believe that, given four or five years in bottle, it will find increased complexity and become every bit as interesting as it is generous.

The Wine Enthusiast, October 2012 Rating: 91

A nice interpretation of Syrah, this shows fine Napa elegance and structure. Dry and complex, this 100% Syrah has flavors of ripe, crushed blackberry fruit, raw beef, iron and black pepper, with a touch of smoky oak. Try now with beef tartare or carpaccio for something different.

Wine Spectator, December 15, 2012 Rating:91

Intense and vibrant, with firm, rich dark berry and plum flavors that show a touch of melted black licorice, easing on the finish. Features chewy tannins and cedary oak. Drink now through 2020.

Consulting Winemaker and Viticulturalist: Kirk Venge

Proprietors: The Janzen Family

Total Production: 175 cases **Release Date:** Autumn 2012 **Website Retail Price:** \$60

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