

2005 Canis Major Cabernet Sauvignon

Always our "big dog" among Canis Major wines, combining 100% French oak barrels with intense lush Cabernet fruit. Yet in today's world of full-throttle, over-the-top Cabernets, it actually has wonderful balance and drinkability.

2005 Vintage

Silver Medal • 2009 San Francisco International Wine Competition

Silver Medal • 2009 SF Chronicle Wine Competition

Silver Medal • 2009 CA State Fair Wine Competition

Bronze Medal - 2009 Grand Harvest Awards Bronze Medal - 2008 Sonoma County Harvest Fair

2004 Vintage

Silver Medals - 2007 Sonoma County Harvest Fair, 2008 San Diego Wine Competition, 2008 SF International Wine Competition, 2008 National

Women's Wine Competition

Perotti Vineyard, Dry Creek Valley

Our friendship with Ed and Bruce Perotti led us to their 1.5 acre hillside Cabernet Sauvignon block. This is the first time that they have grown Cabernet Sauvignon, and they offered it to Brenda, a stroke of luck for us! Planted in 2000, the vines are "babes in the woods." In 2005, the vineyard's fifth leaf, we harvested 4.2 tons of tiny, tiny berries - a yield of 2.8 tons per acre. Brenda and Bruce will continue to target this level of production to make certain we get concentrated fruit and tannin structure in the grapes and skins.

Brenda's Winemaking

In the winery, Brenda ferments her Cabernet Sauvignon in a similar manner to her Zinfandel and Syrah. She is not looking for maximum power and extraction from the grape skins. Rather, she is focused on a more gentle extraction that emphasizes purity of fruit. Fermentation was done in open top tanks with 3 times daily punch-downs and one "French rack" to maximize extraction and yeast production. The wine was aged in 100% French oak, with 50% new Bel Air, Vicard and Vernou cooperage.

Tasting Notes

Tight aromas of new French oak and hints of red and black fruits signal the wine's youth. Bright fruit flavors combine with caramel and toasty oak in a structured mid palette that explodes into a chewy, dense finish with sweet, ripe tannins. Drinks great now!



Information

Vintage: 2005

Appellation: Dry Creek Valley

Vineyard: Perotti Vineyard

Alcohol: 15.5%

Produced: 179 cases



The constellation 'Canis Major' is famous the world over; resembling a large dog, it is known as 'The Greater Dog'. Canis Major seems a fitting name for our "big dog" wines.

Brenda & Chris Lynch, Owners

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