

BIG BASIN

— VINEYARDS —

2012 Coastview Vineyard Syrah

Gabilan Mountains - Monterey County



- Harvested: September 28 & 29, 2012. Full Moon
- Winemaking: whole berry, approx. 20% whole cluster, cold soak, hand punched, indigenous yeast
- Barrel aged 22 months in French oak
- Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered August 2014
- Alcohol 14.9%
- 220 cases produced

Winemaker Notes:

It is widely accepted that Syrah only reveals its true character, potential and vineyard terrior when planted on hillsides. The great vineyards in Hermitage, Cornas and in Cote Rotie are testaments to the labor of love nurturing the best expressions of the ancient Syrah grape. The Gabilan Mountains are a rugged granitic and calcareous limestone based range that is hardly hospitable to any crop other than low yielding, character rich wine grapes. It's for this very reason that about half of our production is sourced from these remote mountainous vineyards. We love sharing the story of the Gabilan Mountains through our wines - Coastview Syrah was our first chapter of this story starting in 2007.

The 2012 vintage is remembered as classic vintage in California. The seasons transitioned when and as they should. Our Syrah blocks at the Coastview Vineyard produced an ideal 2 tons per acre, which we harvested under a full moon on September 28th and 29th. We co-fermented our two lots with Viognier, also from Coastview, for a total of 7% Viognier, and 30% whole cluster inclusion. As not to interfere with the beautiful terrior of this unique site, we aged the wine in only 22% new French Oak. This vintage really embodies our beginning to understand the nuances and character of this world class vineyard site, and how to best transparently capture it in bottle.

Antonio Galloni - *Vinous* - 94 points

"The 2012 Syrah Coastview Vineyard presents a distinctly red-fleshed profile. Dark cherry jam, pomegranate and plum are supported by round, silky tannins. Suave and expressive through to the finish, 2012 is just as impressive from bottle as it was from barrel."

Jeb Dunnuck - *Robert Parker's Wine Advocate* - 94 points

"One of the stars of the lineup is the 2012 Syrah Coastview Vineyard from Monterey County. Co-fermented with 7% Viognier and fermented with 20% whole clusters, it offers gorgeous notes of caramelized dark fruits, plums, olive, licorice and white pepper. Showing the meaty, gamy side to the variety, with full-bodied richness and excellent mid-palate concentration, it still has sensational purity and freshness."