

ISSUE #2 – CALIFORNIA RHONE RANGERS

THE RHONE REPORT

Dedicated to the wines and grapes of the Rhone valley

BY JEB DUNNUCK NOVEMBER 2009



DERBY WINE ESTATES

WEBSITE: WWW.DERBYWINEESTATES.COM

2007 DERBY WINE ESTATES FIFTEEN10 DERBY VINEYARD WHITE 90
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2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES FIFTEEN10 RED DERBY VINEYARD RED 88
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2007 DERBY WINE ESTATES FIFTEEN10 DERBY VINEYARD (USA, CALIFORNIA, CENTRAL COAST, PASO ROBLES) \$24

EVEN BETTER THAN THE '06, THE 2007 DERBY WINE ESTATES FIFTEEN10 DERBY VINEYARD IS 40/40 ROUSSANNE AND MARSANNE WITH THE REMAINDER VIOGNIER. FRESH, PURE AND CRISP, THERE'S COPIOUS PINEAPPLE, LEMON, CITRUS AND FLORAL AROMAS, MEDIUM BODY AND VIBRANT, JUICY ACIDITY. THIS OPENS UP BEAUTIFULLY IN THE GLASS AND WILL DRINK WELL OVER THE NEXT YEAR OR TWO. (90 PTS.)

2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES FIFTEEN10 DERBY VINEYARD (USA, CALIFORNIA, CENTRAL COAST, PASO ROBLES) \$24

A BLEND OF 34% VIOGNIER, 33% MARSANNE AND 33% ROUSSANNE, THE 2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES FIFTEEN10 DERBY VINEYARD HAS RIPE APPLE AND PINEAPPLE AROMAS AND FLAVORS, MEDIUM BODY AND A FULL, RICH TEXTURE. THERE'S CRISP ACIDITY AND WHILE THIS LACKS THE FRESHNESS OF THE 2007, IS DELICIOUS. DRINK THIS WITH FULL FLAVORED MEALS OVER THE NEXT YEAR. (88 PTS.)

2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES FIFTEEN10 RED DERBY VINEYARD (USA, CALIFORNIA, CENTRAL COAST, PASO ROBLES) \$28

A BLEND OF 38% SYRAH, 28% GRENACHE, 28% COUNOISE AND 6% MOURVÉDRE, THE 2006 FIFTEEN10 DERBY VINEYARD HAS A SAVORY AROMATIC PROFILE WITH DRIED SPICE, FOREST FLOOR, CHERRIES AND MEATY NOTES. THE PALATE IS MEDIUM BODIED, BEAUTIFULLY TEXTURED, BALANCED AND LONG. DRINK THESE OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS. (88 PTS.)

2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES MOCAB (USA, CALIFORNIA, CENTRAL COAST, PASO ROBLES) \$28

WITH A RUBY RED, SLIGHTLY TRANSPARENT COLOR, THE 2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES MOCAB IS A BLEND OF 60% MOURVÉDRE AND 40% CABERNET, AND OFFERS UP A LICORICE, RED FRUIT AND SPICE DRIVEN BOUQUET. IT'S SWEET, UPFRONT AND EASY DRINKING WITH EARTH, TAR, MEAT AND UNDERBRUSH NOTES COMING THROUGH WITH AIR. MEDIUM BODIED IN THE MOUTH, THE WINE HAS A LIGHT TEXTURE, MEDIUM CONCENTRATION AND A GULPABLE CHARACTER THAT KEEPS YOU COMING BACK FOR MORE. DRINK THIS FOOD FRIENDLY, STRAIGHT UP DELICIOUS WINE OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS WITH ANY NUMBER OF SPICED AND HERBED FOOD. 172 CASES. (89 PTS.)

2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES PETITE SIRAH LAURA'S VINEYARD (USA, CALIFORNIA, CENTRAL COAST, PASO ROBLES) \$26

THE 2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES PETITE SIRAH LAURA'S VINEYARD HAS SPICY, SAVORY AROMATICS OF MULLED CHERRIES, LICORICE, TAR, UNDERBRUSH AND MEAT, MEDIUM TO FULL BODY, PLENTY OF RICH FRUIT AND A MODERATELY TANNIC FINISH. THIS SHOULD DRINK WELL FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS. (88 PTS.)

2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES SYRAH (USA, CALIFORNIA, CENTRAL COAST, PASO ROBLES) \$26

THE 2006 DERBY WINE ESTATES SYRAH POSSESSES QUALITY AROMATICS OF SPICE AND UNDERBRUSH, DARK FRUIT, SMOKED MEAT AND ROAD TAR. THESE LEAD INTO A MEDIUM BODIED PALATE THAT HAS RICH, SWEET FRUIT, VIBRANT ACIDITY AND A SMOOTH TEXTURE. PICKS UP SOME CHOCOLATE NUANCES ON THE FINISH AND THIS SHOULD DRINK WELL OVER THE NEXT 5 TO 7 YEARS. (88 PTS.)