

# 2008 Calaveras County Syrah-Viognier

## TASTING NOTES

“It’s a **floor wax!**” “It’s a **dessert topping!**” While the name of this wine might cause you to remember an old sketch from Saturday Night Live, we feel pretty safe in advising you not to use this wine to **brighten your floors**. On the other hand the **bright fragrances of blackberries** and **tart candy flavors of peaches** might leave you with a hankering for **cobbler** served over **vanilla ice cream**. Or your girlfriend. Or boyfriend. Or spouse. Or lover. Or all of them at the same time...

## PRODUCTION NOTES

The **Tanner Vineyard** is home to many different varietals for us. Plenty of the Syrah ripens early enough to harvest **within a day or two** of the Viognier from the Dalton vineyard and 2008 was no exception. We take the Viognier and gently press out about **half** of the juice from the skins. Then we take those **wet and “sloppy” skins** that are still holding about half of their juice and dump them into a Syrah fermentation. The skins and pulp of Viognier are where the intense aromatics are stored so the Syrah ferment gets an opportunity to pull all of those aromatics out into the Syrah.

The wine finished out the very last part of fermentation in 50% new French Oak and 50% new European oak. After the end of primary fermentation, we began **stirring the lees** in the barrels vigorously every week to enhance mouthfeel, then racked out of barrels off of the primary lees before being put back down for long-term aging.

## TECHNICAL NITTY GRITTY

### Varietals & Vineyards:

92% Syrah from the Tanner Vineyard  
8% Viognier from the Dalton Vineyard

### Harvest Date:

September 5, 2008

### Oak Program:

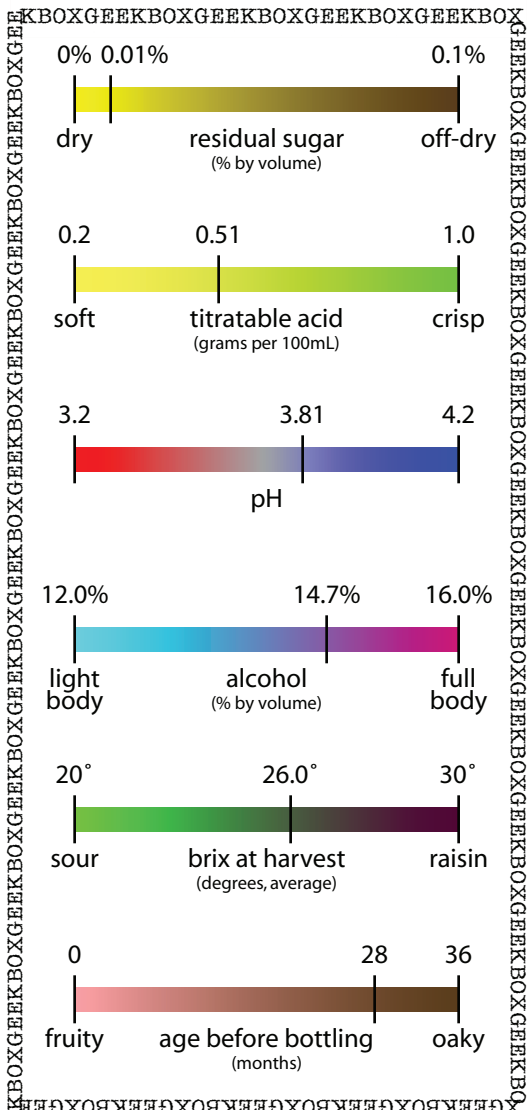
40% New European oak  
60% Neutral oak

### Food Pairings: Tapas!

spicy sausages and salamis - ham - game - pot roast - linguica  
sweet fruit sauces - even lamb and goat!  
(and, oddly enough, corned beef and cabbage...)

**Suggested Retail Price: \$32**

**170 cases produced**  
[twistedoak.com/syrahviognier](http://twistedoak.com/syrahviognier)



Still Confused? Don't be! Just check out our "Geek Sheet Cheat Sheet"