

2011 MAGMA RED RED HILLS LAKE COUNTY SNOWS LAKE VINEYARD

The 2011 Magma Red is an unusual Bordeaux blend consisting of 44% Cabernet Franc, 31% Petit Verdot, 20% Malbec from the Snows Lake Vineyard, and 5% Cabernet Sauvignon from our Crimson Hill Vineyard.

VINEYARD

We like the opportunity to work with the fruit from this established vineyard located at 2,500 feet on Perini Road, above our vineyard. This site is known for producing high quality wine grapes for numerous wineries.

The Red Hills AVA of Lake County is a unique growing area in California's North Coast. The high elevation vineyards receive more sunlight resulting in greater color and flavor intensity. The soils are volcanic, cinder red in color and rocky, and provide ideal conditions for quality wines. The dry climate, clean air, and proximity to Clear Lake provide favorable conditions for quality wine grapes.

WINEMAKING

The grapes were crushed, concentrated by bleeding eight percent of the volume, and then cold-soaked for three days prior to fermentation in bins holding approximately 1.5 tons each. The bins were punched down and aeratively pumped over for a period between 10 and 30 days providing a gentle quality extraction of color, flavor, and texture. After pressing, each wine was aged in a combination of new and used French oak barrels for a period of 20 months.

TASTING NOTES

The wine exhibits aromas of ripe plum and chocolate/mocha, with highlights of mint and dried herbs. The lively concentrated flavor bursts with ripe berries and sweet oak. This structured wine is best enjoyed with slow cooked ribs or stews. Harvest: August 2, 2011 Ta: 6.6 g/l pH: 3.52

Alcohol: 14.5% Production: 368 cases Retail Price: \$25

