

2007 Tinto Rey



BLEND

44% *Tempranillo*
36% *Syrah*
13% *Cabernet Sauvignon*
5% *Graciano*
2% *Petite Sirah*

VINEYARDS

Dunnigan Hills Matchbook
73% *Tempranillo* | *Syrah* | *Graciano*
Russian River Valley
25% *Cabernet Sauvignon* | *Syrah*
Solano County
2% *Petite Sirah*

BARRELS

100% Barrel aged
20% new from:
Magrenan | *French Allier*,
coopered in Spain
Boutes | *French "Cooper Select,"*
from center of France
World Cooperage | 3 years
in dried American oak
80% from 2-5 year old barrels:
Francois Freres | *French Allier*
World Cooperage | *French Oak*
from center of France
Seguin Moreau | *French Allier*
and Never oak
Sylvain | *French Allier*

CHEMISTRY

Appellation: California
TA: .68
pH: 3.87
Alcohol: 13.7%
Production: 6,900 cases

GRAPES

Tinto Rey means Red King. Tempranillo is the king of Spanish red wines and one of the most important varieties in our Matchbook Vineyard in the Dunnigan Hills. The Spanish varieties Tempranillo and Graciano contribute spicy red berry fruit flavors; Syrah adds rich flavors of black cherry and blueberry; the spicy cedar and tobacco notes are from the cool weather Cabernet Sauvignon; a touch of Petite Sirah pumps up the tannins, the rich color, and adds a little pepper spice.

CELLAR

After one day of cold soak, the tank was bled to concentrate the flavors. We pressed off at three to zero Brix after an eight-day fermentation to allow brighter, cleaner fruit expression and to avoid heavy tannins. After two aerative rackings, the wine went down to barrel in October 2007. The final blend was created in May of the following year.

STORY

As a farm kid growing up in the late 1950's and early 1960's, John Giguiere was a confirmed pyromaniac starting various things on fire such as his father's wheat fields. He and his brother graduated to launching rockets, which often blew up at some stage of the journey resulting in more random fires, and calls to the local fire department. They eventually grew out of this fascination with the Matchbook, but still have fond memories of the power they possessed.

