

# 2009 Syrah



## VINEYARDS

**Dunnigan Hills**  
Matchbook Vineyard  
91% Syrah

**Chalk Hill**  
Sweetwater Land & Cattle  
5% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Chalk Hill**  
Tim Norris  
4% Cabernet Sauvignon

## BARRELS

20% new from:  
*Magrenan | French Allier oak  
coopered in Spain*  
80% 2-5 year old barrels:  
*Magrenan | French Allier  
World Cooperage | 3 year air dried  
American oak*  
*Trust | Hungarian oak, band split  
and slow toasted over oak fires*

## CHEMISTRY

**Appellation:** Dunnigan Hills  
**Farming:** Sustainable  
Night Harvest  
**TA:** .67  
**pH:** 3.93  
**Alcohol:** 14.3%  
**Production:** 6,750 cases

## GRAPES

The fragrance of mocha, chocolate and wild dark berries waft from the glass with background hints of leather, earthy baking spices and toasted oak. Juicy flavors of blackberries and chocolate truffles are enhanced by subtle notes of cardamom, cinnamon, and cocoa powder. This wine has bold flavors that integrate seamlessly with velvety smooth tannins. The 2009 Matchbook Syrah is polished, yet intensely bold and will pair nicely with the strong flavors of lamb, venison or prime rib topped with a dollop of blue cheese.

## CELLAR

The grapes were gently crushed and fermented in small temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks. Specially selected yeast was used on 70% of the fruit to enhance color and flavor extraction without harsh tannins. Native yeast was used on 30% of the ferments to add complexity and richness. Tanks were pumped over twice a day until nearly dry, then pressed and aged in oak barrels for 26 months. We like to use an assortment of French, Hungarian and American oak and only 22% new to avoid over-oaking. We blended in 9% Chalk Hill Cabernet Sauvignon to give the wine depth, richness and improved structure.

## STORY

As a farm kid growing up in the late 1950's and early 1960's, John Giguere 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

