

# 2008 ENDANGERED SPECIES, PROPRIETARY RED WINE

## WINEMAKER NOTES

After 2007 – ‘the vintage of a century’ - 2008 may be in a somewhat unfortunate competitive position. Ultimately, though, I love 2008. The wines are generally more ‘showy’ at an early age, possess very distinctive, and friendly personalities and currently display a lot of forward power *and* finesse, and aromatics that simply jump from the glass.

Endangered Species is so called because it is the second to last vintage in which we farmed most of the vineyards that went into it. I love all of these vineyards and what they’ve given us, and giving them up was a hard call to make. However, if there is no change there is no progress.

Endangered species is well endowed but carries the kind of balance I always strive for. It’s forward personality makes for an approachable quality, even in its youth, but I expect this wine to age and develop for a decade or more.



ENDANGERED SPECIES, acts1-3

## WINE STATISTICS

Varietals	Syrah 92% (clones 174 & 877), Viognier 5%, Roussanne 3%
Vineyards	Watch Hill 48%, Grassini 30%, Los Tres Burros 14%, Bien Nacido 5%, Refugio 3%
Harvest Dates	October 18 – 23, 2008
Yields	1.1 – 1.6 tons/acre, 1.2 – 1.8 lbs/vine
Brix (at harvest)	25.1 - 26
Alcohol	15.2%
pH	3.61 – 3.7/3.83 (at harvest/final)
Barrels / Coopers	57%% new / 43% seasoned, 228 & 300 L French barrels
Barrel Aging	32 months
Rackings	2 (including blend assembly)
Filtering / Fining	None
Blend Assembled	January 2011
Bottling scheduled for	August 2011
Production	350 six-pack cases / 175 9L cases
Release Date	October 2011
SRP	\$70

## Wine Enthusiast

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Syrah, co-fermented with Viognier and Roussanne. The whites give an acidic, lemony tang to the rich, flamboyant blackberries, cherries and bacon of Syrah. The wine is young and vibrant, with a velvety texture. 93

## Stephen Tanzer’s IWC

Opaque purple. Pungent aromas of blackberry, cassis, candied licorice, cracked pepper and mocha. Dense, layered and quite lively, offering sweet blackberry, spicecake and olive flavors. Finishes with broad, supple tannins and very persistent dark berry flavor. 92

## Robert Partker’s WA

bursts from the glass with super-ripe blackberries, blueberries, and plums. White floral notes from the Viognier and Roussanne add lift and freshness to the Syrah. This remains a huge, layered wine. Crushed rocks and all Things mineral are woven into the Dramatic finish. Anticipated maturity: 2014-2022 (Tasted from barrel (89-92)