

Verdad Tempranillo 2004

This wine is 75% Tempranillo, 13% Syrah and 12% Grenache. The Tempranillo is farmed organically at the Ibarra-Young Vineyard in Los Olivos. The Syrah is from the Bien Nacido Vineyard in the Santa Maria Valley and the Grenache is from Purisima Mountain Vineyard in Los Olivos.

The Tempranillo was harvested on September 10, 2004 after a short growing season and a really intense heat wave. Seventy-five per cent of the Tempranillo is from a Rioja clone and twenty-five per cent is from a clone from the Ribiera del Duero region of Spain. The grapes were destemmed and fermented in small open topped fermenters and hand punched down. The Syrah and Grenache were harvested in mid October and fermented in the same fashion.

The wine was aged for 16 months in mostly neutral barrels, with about 10% new barrels and 10% one and two year old new barrels. The lots were blended together in February 2006 before being lightly fined and bottled.

This is a full-bodied wine with ripe cherry aromas and flavors of cherries, ripe berries, cinnamon and chocolate. The wine has a long smoky, spicy finish.

576 cases were produced.

Louisa Sawyer Lindquist