



## 2005 Novy Christensen Family Vineyard Syrah

The 2005 vintage at the Christensen Vineyard was really characterized by...well, by nothing really special. It was a long, cool, uneventful growing season. It was the kind of year that allows flavors to ripen slowly and evenly without any concerns regarding botrytis, mildew, under ripe fruit, excessive sugars, or really much of anything else. This type of “worry-free” season can lead to complacency in the winery but we tried to push the envelope a bit more with this wine than in 2004 and, more importantly, increase the level of complexity in the final blend.

We did this by splitting the fruit from this vineyard into various lots, fermenting some of the juice in bins, some in tank, using different yeasts for the fermentation, and then selecting just 58% of the barrels for the final wine.

The 2005 Christensen Syrah shows that same vineyard characteristics that we have come to expect in this wine: game, pepper (although more black than white this year), and a bit of earth. In addition, however, there are added elements of fennel, thyme, and even a slight rhubarb flavor to the wine. These additional levels of flavor are what we hope to build in to many of our wines and we think that we were able to achieve this rather successfully with this 2005 Syrah.

**278 cases produced**

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**Novy Family Wines**

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