



## 2010 CYRUS

History, tradition, excellence - these three simple words define the vision of the Wetzel Family and our wines at Alexander Valley Vineyards.

Our six hundred acre property was the homestead of valley namesake Cyrus Alexander. When he rode into our valley in 1840 he called it the "brightest and best spot in the world". He chose this spot to build his home and raise his family, and many years later we would do the same. From the beginning our wines have showcased the historic place we call home. Our property is bordered by the Russian River and the Mayacamas Mountains where the warm days and cool nights along with gravelly loam soils provide the perfect conditions to grow world class Bordeaux varietals. CYRUS is a celebration of our estate grown grapes, focused winemaking and the Alexander Valley. This wine is our tribute to the man, the region and the very best of the vintage.

Overall 2010 was a cool growing season with fewer heat spikes than prior vintages, diligent vineyard management was the key to great fruit development. Winemaker Kevin Hall selected 8 exceptional barrel aged lots for the final blend:

Cabernet Sauvignon	2 lots	Hillside, tiny berries, concentrated, dark color, loads of cassis	100% French Oak
Merlot	1 lot	Huge structure, dark fruits, plum, spice, big entry	50% French , 50% American Oak
Cabernet Franc	2 lots	Dark color, floral, great acidity	100% French Oak
Petit Verdot	2 lots	Tiny grapes, inky dark color, concentrated	100% French Oak
Malbec	1 lot	Dark color, meaty , broad palette	100% French Oak



The blended wine was barrel aged in French Oak for an additional 12 months allowing the components to meld into a seamless blend. CYRUS 2010 was bottle aged for 8 months for additional complexity prior to release.

There is great structure along with concentrated fruit in the 2010 CYRUS. In the glass there is terrific color with expressive aromas of cassis, berry, plum, toasty oak and vanilla. This is a rich, complex wine with flavors of dark fruits, spice, oak, vanilla and cocoa powder. Enjoyable upon release, this wine will reward those with the patience to age it.

- Accolades:** 2010: 97 points / Five Stars - *Beverage Dynamics / Cheers*  
 2010: 92 points - *Wine Enthusiast*  
 2010: 91 points - *Wine & Spirits Magazine*  
 2010: 92 points & Gold Medal - *San Francisco International Wine Competition*  
 2010: 90 points - *The Tasting Panel*  
 2010: Double Gold Medal Best in Show - *Hilton Head Wine & Food Festival*

**Profile:** • Rich, complex, structured, expressive

### About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Winemaker Kevin Hall assisted with blending the 1997 CYRUS and crafted the 1998 CYRUS as his first vintage. He envisioned CYRUS as a refined, seamless wine showcasing the hallmarks of great Alexander Valley vineyards. He began looking for select vineyard blocks to add more complexity to the blend, moving away from the heavy reliance on American oak to more emphasis on French oak barrels for CYRUS. Under his tenure CYRUS has achieved critical acclaim with accolades and awards from major wine critics vintage after vintage and is now known as *The First Growth of Sonoma*.

### Technical Data:

**Grapes:** 51% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Merlot, 18% Cabernet Franc, 3% Petite Verdot, 2% Malbec  
**Harvest:** October 1 thru October 15, 2010  
**Closure:** Cork  
**Alcohol:** 14.3%    **pH:** 3.44    **TA:** 7.2 g/L  
**UPC:** 0-85798-11062-9 750ml    0-85798-11061-2 375ml  
**Release Date:** March 2014    **SRP:** \$65

