



2009 CYRUS

Cyrus Alexander was a 19th century adventurer, rancher, gold miner, community leader and since 1995, the namesake of CYRUS, our benchmark red wine. Winemaker Kevin Hall selects the most distinctive lots of our estate Bordeaux grapes for CYRUS. Overall 2009 was a cooler vintage with fewer heat spikes than in past years, so the acidity of this vintage is slightly higher than prior releases. The growing season allowed for uniform ripening in the Alexander Valley which led to wines with good structure, balance and complexity.

Each lot is barrel aged separately for 12-14 months, then we blend to showcase the vintage. The 2009 is a blend of Cabernet Sauvignon with exceptional concentration & lush texture; Merlot with concentration & structure; Cabernet Franc with finesse & depth; Petit Verdot for vivid color & richness and Malbec for deep color & depth. The completed blend was then barrel aged for an additional 12 months in 100% French oak, allowing the components to meld and giving the wine seamless texture and rich complexity. We will release the wine on Cyrus Alexander's birthday in March 2013.

Elegant, yet structured describes the 2009 CYRUS. There are aromas of plum, black cherry, cassis and toasty oak along with rich flavors of cherry, plum, vanilla, oak and blackberry. This seamless blend has a good structure on the finish and a long after-taste. While CYRUS is both barrel aged and bottle aged, the wine is still quite young. It will open up beautifully in the glass, but will easily benefit from additional cellar aging.



Food Pairing: For a classic pairing try steak or lamb. A slow roasted prime rib will showcase this wine.

- Accolades:**
- 2009: 91 points - Wine Advocate "tasty, polished wine"**
 - 2009: Gold Medal - San Diego County Fair Wine Competition**
 - 2008: 93 points Wine Enthusiast "... the winery's best in years"**
 - 2007: 91 points Wine Enthusiast - Cellar Selection**
 - 2006: 92 points Wine Enthusiast**

Profile:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elegant, expressive • The First Growth of Sonoma
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About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Over the last decade we have replanted our vineyards with reduced spacing resulting in more rows per acre and closer spacing per vine. On some sites we have more than doubled the plants in these high density vineyards. These tightly spaced vines produce around 10-12 pounds of grapes per vine. This low yield results in great complexity in the glass, while more vines per acre is one of the keys to great value in our bottles. So the next time you hear someone quoting tons per acre, be sure to ask them how many vines are producing that ton and compute the pounds per vine.

Technical Data:

Grapes: 57% Cabernet Sauvignon, 26% Cabernet Franc, 11% Merlot, , 3% Petite Verdot, 3% Malbec

Harvest: September 22 thru October 28, 2009

Closure: Cork

Alcohol: 14% **pH:** 3.5 **TA:** 6.9 g/L

UPC: 0-85798-11062-9 750ml 0-85798-11061-2 375ml

Release Date: March 2013

