



THE STEVEN KENT WINERY

FUTURE RELEASE PROGRAM 2011 "Radius IX" Red Wine LIVERMORE VALLEY

Though we have made *Radius* eight times prior to the new release, *Radius IX* continues the varietal direction that we began traveling down two years ago. The majority of this new release is Cabernet and Syrah from our finest vineyards in the Livermore Valley.

Radius IX is 44% Cabernet Sauvignon, 44% Syrah, and 12% Grenache all from our Ghielmetti Estate vineyard and this blend has resulted in a wine that has a lithe heft to it both aromatically and structurally. From the aromatics (clearly favoring Syrah) in their succulent blue and blackberry fruit notes, and a hint of mocha; the subtlety of Grenache's wild strawberry and the black, weighted fruit of Home Ranch Cabernet both add tremendous complexity to the aromatics of this release.

On entry to mid-palate, the richness of *Radius IX*'s dark to black fruit and the supporting acidity that highlights the juiciness of that fruit are in clear evidence. This wine is not particularly tannic, and it has a wonderful roundness and viscosity that begs to be enjoyed with a variety of cheeses and meats. It is in the finishing acidity of the wine, that *Radius* shows its vintage character and Syrah and Grenache to greatest degree. Each varietal element has a strong personality on its own, but together they produce a wonderful drinking experience. This wine is epitomized by elegance and power with 7-10 year aging potential.

Each varietal was vinified separately and put into 75% new oak barrels for 24 months. A strict selection of barrels resulted in this wonderful wine made exclusively for members of our Future Release Program.

HISTORY

The Steven Kent Winery was started in 1996 with the planting of our vineyard site and a mission to produce distinctive wines from the Livermore Valley that could compete with any other appellation. Our first Future Release Program wines were made with an eye toward delicious, age-worthy proprietary blends from fruit grown mostly in the Livermore Valley.

These blends have encompassed a wide range of varieties, but our singular goal of producing great wines of place exclusively for the adventurous palates of our Future Release Program members continues with this release of *Radius IX*.

VINTAGE

Harvest Date: October 30 – November 3, 2011

Fruit: 44% Cabernet Sauvignon (Home Ranch), 44% Syrah (Ghielmetti Vineyard), and 12% Grenache (Ghielmetti Vineyard). Alcohol 14.2%.

Fermentation: After destemming and crushing the fruit was fermented in 1 ¾ ton open-top bins. After a cold-soaking period, the must was inoculated with yeast. Each lot was fermented separately, and each went through malo-lactic fermentation in barrel.

Aging: A combination of American, French, and Hungarian barrels was used. 75% new, 25% second-use.

Time in Barrel: 24 months

Production: 205 cases

Release Date: June 7, 2014

VINEYARD

Location: The Ghielmetti Vineyard is located about 3.4 miles east of the Winery on the corner of Reuss and Tesla Roads. The Home Ranch Vineyard is located at the winery and is planted on the leavings of the Arroyo Mocho River along Tesla Road.

Soil: Ghielmetti Vineyard is planted on sandy loam with intrusions of clay; both Blocks 14 and 6 contain a large percentage of Perkins loam; Block 14 also contains Positas gravelly loam while Block 6 also includes Zamora silt loam. Home Ranch is gravel and loam.

Training: Vertical Shoot Position (VSP) trellising method at both vineyards.