

ENKIDU



2010 Humbaba



What we think:

Like the Diener Petite, the 2010 *Humbaba* is built with broad shoulders, much like the 2007. Youthful tannins and acidity give great length to this wine that features black cherry, olive, herb and black pepper. Over time, this beauty will become more complex, round and soft, with ten-plus years of aging potential. If drinking early, and I don't mean in the morning, a little air by decanting will enhance the experience. Try porcini mushroom and pancetta pizza with asiago cheese.

Harvest: Oct. 10 - Oct. 30, 2010
Brix: 22.0°-27.5°
Varieties: Syrah 62%, Petite Sirah 35%, Roussanne, Marsanne and Grenache Blanc combine for 3%.
pH: 3.62
T.A. : 6.77gms/L
Cooperage: All French – 10% New
Bottled: April 25, 2012
550 cases produced.

Place and vine:

The grapes that make up the *Humbaba* blend come from cool climate Syrah in Sonoma Valley and Rincon Valley, along with Petite Sirah sourced from the incredible Red Hills of Lake County. In 2010, the Rhone blend features Syrah, Petite Sirah and 3% of the Rhone white varieties Rousanne, Marsanne and Grenache Blanc. This is the first year that our Humbaba is not dominated with the Syrah fruit from Odyssey Vineyard, which suffered from the cold wet season in October. Instead, we sourced Syrah from the Annadel Vineyard in Sonoma Valley, which produced a very spicy and concentrated wine.

What we did:

Humbaba, the protector of the Cedar Forest from the [Epic of Gilgamesh](#), is our Rhone style blend. The small amount of white wine we added in 2010 contributes a feminine quality to this vintage, including a little brightness and floral component. As with most of the red wines we produce, we employ the use of indigenous yeast and only inoculate when necessary. We obtain a little more complexity, and more important, we have experienced better fermentations with native yeast. We conducted a cold soak for four days and employed 2x daily pump-overs until fermentation began, at which time we performed 2x daily punch downs. Aged in French oak, approximately 10% new.