



2010

CHEMIN DE FER

49% Grenache
Alban Clone

38% Syrah
Clone 174 & 470

13% Mourvèdre
Clone 369

BOTTLED FEBRUARY 2012 • 325 CASES PRODUCED

Alc: 14.8%

pH: 3.74

TA: 5.5 g/L

SONOMA VALLEY ESTATE GROWN

Traveling by train through southern France many years ago, we had a chance to really explore the wines of that region. We discovered wines that showed forward fruit without the overpowering jammy character often found in New World wines. Once home in Sonoma Valley, guided by our memories of those delightful French wines, we crafted our own red blend of estate Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre grapes. We chose the name Chemin de Fer, a French phrase that means 'railroad,' to honor the path that led us to this wine. The painting depicts our steam train as it meanders through the Syrah vineyard. Deep garnet in color, the wine has aromas of raspberry and spice followed with mouth-watering berry flavors, harmonizing with soft, supple tannins for a smooth finish. It is a well-balanced wine that is easy to pair, easy to drink, and to us reminiscent of easy, laidback European train trips.

JUSTI CREEK VINEYARDS

This estate property in Sonoma Valley is rich in historical significance, encompassing organically farmed vineyards and an eco-friendly winery. Justi Creek Vineyards, part of the stunning 95-acre ranch in Sonoma Valley on the outskirts of Glen Ellen, is a collection of three adjacent parcels of land, which were acquired by the Lasseter family in 2000, 2002 and 2009. The Lasseters embarked on an environmentally sensitive upgrading for their property, lovingly restoring the natural habitat and converting the vineyards exclusively to organic farming practices. The pond was completely revitalized; bee hives and an insectory were installed in order to provide a home for beneficial insects. Today, the land is alive again and the certified organic vineyards are flourishing, nurtured back to an optimal expression of this historical winegrowing area. The Rhone varietals of Syrah, Grenache and Mourvèdre are grown on the seven-acre Justi Creek Block, adjacent to Calabasas Creek. These vines provide us with the exceptional fruit from which we craft Chemin de Fer. This luscious, fruit forward wine is assertive yet elegant, allowing us to create a classic blend with an innovative style.

Winemaker: Julia Iantosca

