



# 2008 Syrah Forté Snipes Mountain

**DavenLore**  
winery

## WINEMAKER NOTES

This Port style wine was sourced from a steeply sloped vineyard nestled up against a cobble stone shelf which creates an extra warm microclimate. A special corner of this Snipes Mountain AVA vineyard is used for our Syrah Forté. One ton of grapes were hand harvested and crushed to make this Decade Series Wine. I used my favorite Laffort yeast, F-15, which developed complex blackberry, raspberry and currant notes. This yeast is a rapid fermenter reducing the residual sugar from 27.2 Brix to 10 Brix in four days. Eighteen and one half gallons of neutral grape sprits were added to stop the fermentation raising the alcohol content to slightly below 18.0%. I barrel aged this wine on the lees for six months before racking. Bottling occurred after 514 days in the barrel.

*Gord Taylor, Winemaker*

## VINEYARD

**Location:** Newhouse Vineyard, Snipes Mountain AVA

**Date Planted:** 1999

**Soil:** Harwood-Burke-Wiehl silt loam formed in the Snipes Mountain conglomerate. High level of worn river cobbles prior to last ice age.

**Aspect:** South

**Growing Degree Days (GDD):** 2724

## WINEMAKING

**Harvested:** Oct 6<sup>th</sup> by Hand

**Brix:** 27.2

**pH:** 3.98

**Yeast:** Laffort F-15

**Fermentation completed:** at 4 days

**Maximum fermentation temperature:** 84.5 F

**Neutral grape sprits:** 18.5 gallons added Oct 10<sup>th</sup>

**Pressed:** Oct 14<sup>th</sup>

**Barrels:** Old neutral oak, Mendocino 2002 & Southern Cross 2005

**Aged:** 17 months

## SYRAH FORTÉ SNIPES MOUNTAIN

**Wine Lore:** Historically, Portuguese winemakers fortified their wines to retain bright fruit flavors, sweetness and protect the wine for shipping. Our Syrah Forté is made by the same practice. Fermentation is stopped midway by the addition of distilled grape spirits, creating a dessert for your glass.



## TECHNICAL DATA

**Alcohol:** 17.9%

**Final pH:** 3.74

**Blend:** 100% Syrah

**Cases produced:** 61

## FOOD PAIRINGS

Chocolate

Vanilla Wafers

Raspberry Desserts

Berry Pies and Compotes

