

U N T I

D R Y C R E E K V A L L E Y

S Y R A H

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GROWN, PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY UNTI VINEYARDS

HEALDSBURG, CALIFORNIA ALCOHOL 14.8% BY VOLUME

**HARVESTED:**  
SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

**AGING:**  
14 MONTHS  
FRENCH OAK BARRELS  
33% NEW

**BRIX AVG:** 24.9

**BLEND:**  
100% SYRAH

**BOTTLED:**  
2/14/2024

**ACIDITY:** 5.9  
**pH:** 3.91

**CASES PRODUCED:**  
600

**ALCOHOL:** 14.7%

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# 2 0 2 2 S Y R A H

**VARIETAL/VINEYARD:** Our Syrah is a blend of two clones (Durrell and 383) from two sites (Creekside and Winery) planted on our winery property in 1998. The 2021 vintage comes almost entirely from our Creekside block, with only one barrel being the 383 clone. These sites, which have a cooler micro-climate than our Benchland vineyard, highlight the olive, blueberry, and agave side of Syrah. The 2021, like the preceding five vintages, delivered a wine that represents a Northern Rhône-style Syrah, which is rare for this appellation.

**VINTAGE:** Even though 2021 could be considered another drought year, the vintage benefited from winter 2020 rains that carried us through a fairly moderate growing season. Though the core winter months had relatively low rainfall, they were cold enough to keep us on track for a typical late March to early April bud-break. This gave way to a warm, dry spring with the exception of some strong winds that occurred during flowering, which may have played some role in lowering the yields.

**WINEMAKING:** We ferment our Syrah in small open-top tanks. After a 5-day cold soak, fermentation begins with indigenous yeasts. Cap management consists of punch-downs or pump overs twice daily. Once dry, the pomace is basket-pressed, blended with free-run wine, and transferred into barrels. A small portion of this wine was whole-cluster fermented to enhance aroma and structure. Our Syrah was aged in French oak barrels, 40% new, for 14 months.

**STYLE/DESCRIPTION:** As always, this 2021 Syrah comes from our "Creekside" block located on the winery property. This site has well drained soils (loam with gravel and sand) that promotes well-balanced vine growth. In 2021, a low crop set resulted in one of our most concentrated Syrahs ever from this site. It features dark color, intense black and blueberry fruit, along with the classic spice and savory elements of Northern Rhône Syrah. Like most of our '21 reds, this Syrah has the structure to age at least 8 to 10 years, but should begin to show well in a couple years. A real vin de garde! - MU