

2012 The Nth Degree

SYRAH

APPELLATION 89% Livermore Valley, San Francisco Bay,

11% Arroyo Seco, Monterey

VARIETAL CONTENT 77% Syrah, 8% Graciano, 7% Malbec,

5% Petite Sirah, 3% Petit Verdot

WINEMAKER Karl D. Wente

ALCOHOL 14.2% **PH** 3.73

TOTAL ACID 0.57g/100mL

RELEASE DATE June 2014

BARRELS PRODUCED 22

VINEYARD Prime Wente estate vineyards from Livermore Valley and Arroyo Seco, Monterey are selected for The Nth Degree program because of their consistent production of exceptional fruit. These elite vineyards receive the utmost care and attention. They are "ultra-farmed"; every vine receives at least fifteen passes by hand, whereby leaves, shoots and clusters are removed to ensure the grape clusters remaining at the time of harvest are of the highest quality. The water is managed so that the vines are perfectly balanced with the correct amount of growth to fully ripen the berries for the optimal level of flavor. The grapes are then hand harvested in the early morning into half ton bins and hand sorted and crushed into small stainless steel fermenters.

WINEMAKING The grapes were fermented separately in small upright stainless steel tanks where the must was gently pumped over twice daily.

AGING The wine was aged for 19 months in French, American, and Eastern European and neutral oak barrels.

DESCRIPTION This Syrah has rich aromas and flavors of dark berry, chocolate, coffee, and spice. Forward yet well-structured tannins complement the toasted oak, yielding a full-bodied wine with a rich, lingering finish.

HISTORY Founded in 1883, Wente Vineyards is the country's oldest continuously operated family-owned winery. Owned and managed today by the fourth and fifth generations of the Wente family, the winery draws from nearly 3,000 acres of estate vineyards in the Livermore Valley, San Francisco Bay, and Arroyo Seco, Monterey winegrowing regions to make an outstanding portfolio of wines.

