

PEAY VINEYARDS

2006 *LES TITANS* ESTATE SYRAH, SONOMA COAST

TASTING NOTES

The cuvée name, *Les Titans* ("the Giants"), refers to two enormous and ancient redwood trees left by loggers over 100 years ago that flank the blocks of Syrah. True to its name, *Les Titans* is the more masculine, compact cuvée.

The dark nose showcases a deep dark plum core with grilled meats with hickory smoke overtones. The tannins are soft but drier than in *La Bruma*. As the wine carries across the palate the flavors amplify and fill the mouth with dried fig, iron, blackberry, white pepper and fennel seed. The length is incredibly long and persistent. Drink now with an hour decant or age for 5+ years.

Clones: Estrella (47%), 1 (27%), a Côte Rôtie selection (18%) and 174 (8%)

Processing: Blocks were picked separately during the last week of October and then sorted and destemmed into 1 and 3 ton open top fermenters. A four day cold soak was followed by a 14-to-18 day whole berry fermentation. At all times, we employ gentle processing and bottle unfined and unfiltered

Aging: 33% new Cadus, François Frères and Ermitage French oak barrels for 15 months

WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK

TANZER: 2006 PEAY VINEYARDS "LES TITANS" ESTATE SYRAH 93 POINTS

Inky ruby. Strikingly pungent aromas of cherry skin, cassis, smoked meat, violet and minerals. More powerful than the *La Bruma*, with deeper dark berry and bitter cherry flavors and a late note of candied licorice. Gains energy on the finish, which is sweet, spicy and very long. I'd put this away for at least another five years.

VINOGRAPHY: 2006 PEAY VINEYARDS LES TITANS ESTATE SYRAH 9-9.5 POINTS

Dark garnet in color, this wine has a deep nose of cassis combined with meaty blackberry aromas. In the mouth it offers a unique combination of umeboshi (Japanese pickled plum) and what I can only describe as a handful of hand picked blackberries -- a mix of ripe and slightly unripe blackberries. This fruit is underwritten by a granitic quality that marries to tartness that lingers in the finish.

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Peay Vineyards is located in the northwestern corner of the "True" Sonoma Coast approximately 4 miles from the Pacific Ocean near Sea Ranch. The vineyard sits at 800 feet on a south facing hilltop formed by the Wheatfield Fork of the Gualala River. The morning fog and cool ocean breezes account for our long growing season that can lead to greater development of phenological components of ripeness, fruit complexity and expression of terroir. Our winemaker and partner is Vanessa Wong, formerly winemaker at Peter Michael Winery. We grow and produce **Pinot noir, Syrah, Chardonnay, Viognier and Roussanne/Marsanne**. We sell fruit to a handful of premier wineries including Williams Selyem and Failla Wineries.