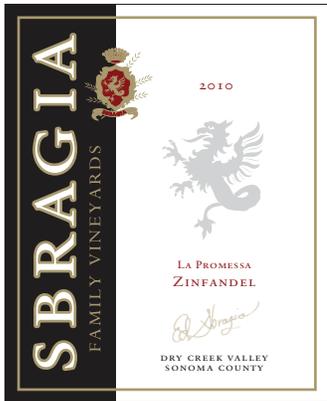




# SBRAGIA

FAMILY VINEYARDS

## 2010 LA PROMESSA ZINFANDEL



### VINEYARD

The name of this wine -- and the vineyard from which it is sourced -- means "The Promise" in Italian. It was chosen for the promise I made to my father to continue our family's long winemaking tradition in California. The vineyard is adjacent to our winery on a rocky, southwest-facing slope that is arguably the warmest part of the Dry Creek Valley. Planted in 1999, the vineyard is still relatively young. 2010 marks our fifth vintage of this wine.

### VINTAGE

Rainfall returned after three dry years, pushing bud break, flowering and fruit-set back by at least two weeks at the front end of the growing season. Fortunately, the cloud cover meant there was no frost damage in 2010. The summer brought cooler than normal temperatures, and this coupled with unexpected heat spikes in late summer resulted in a late and shortened harvest with lower yields. Cooler than average temperatures returned again in early September, giving way to a warm and consistent Indian summer - just the ticket, bringing good flavor and color development to grapes across the board.

### WINEMAKING

I use the minimal winemaking techniques my father taught me with La Promessa, resulting in a wine that displays quintessential Dry Creek Zinfandel characteristics. The wine aged for 18 months in a combination of new and seasoned French oak barrels. I love the brown spice and cedar notes that French oak brings to Dry Creek Zinfandel, along with the supple tannins which round out the wine's rich mouthfeel.

### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

La Promessa is a tribute to my father, who made wine as far back as I can remember. The 2010 vintage is one he would have loved, with aromas of wild blackberry, raspberry and pomegranate that carry through to the flavors, accompanied by notes of brown sugar, molasses, vanilla bean and cocoa. This is a rich, juicy wine with mouth-filling, forward fruit, a streak of acid that keeps the wine structured, and moderate tannins that make for a nice smooth finish.

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Harvest Date: September 30th, 2010  
Blend: 95% Zinfandel, 5% Petite Syrah  
Alcohol: 15.9%  
TA: 6.26 gm/L  
pH: 3.88  
Cases Produced: 560



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