



## 2009 EL DORADO RESERVE MOURVEDRE

**Sources:** Faetta Vineyard and Spanish Creek Vineyard, El Dorado County

**Harvest Dates:** Oct 2, 2009 / Oct 29, 2009

**Brix at Harvest:** 26

**Time in Barrel:** 18 months

**Type of Oak:** Neutral French & American

**Alcohol:** 16%

**Bottled:** April 21, 2011

**Production:** 155 cases

**Winemaker's Notes:** Gold Medal and Best of Region El Dorado County Fair! Called "Merlot of the Rhone" by the winemakers of Crystal Basin Cellars, this wine shows depth, complexity and a rich, round mouth feel along with hints of white pepper, blueberries, a peppery finish and the trademark dustiness of the Mourvedre varietal. This wine favors Bandol, the benchmark Mourvedre-based wine from Franc, but with the Sierra Foothill signature of medium weight and low tannins.

The grapes are from the very small Faetta Vineyard in Lotus and from Spanish Creek Ranch in Fair Play. Wines from these vineyards gain in complexity and depth each year as the vines mature. There are only 900 producing acres of Mourvedre in California, about 10% in the Foothills.

Made in the Crystal Basin Cellars style of minimal handling and processing, this Mourvedre is approachable and delicious upon release, but should improve for up to 36 months after bottling, gaining complexity with age.

Historically, CBC Mourvedres have won the Best of Class of Region at the California State Fair for 4 out of the last 6 vintages. Crystal Basin makes (and sells!) more Mourvedre than any other Foothills producer. Try some for a new and grand wine experience.