



## 2009 EL DORADO RESERVE RENEGADE RED

**Varietals and Sources:**

18% 09 Malbec  
18% 09 Merlot  
18% 09 Petit Verdot  
18% 09 Sangiovese  
28% 09 Zinfandel

**Harvest Dates:** October 2009

**Time in Barrel:** 18 months

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

**Alcohol:** 15.5%

**Bottled:** April 21, 2011

**Production:** 253 cases

**Winemaker's Notes:** Renegade Red has always been one of Crystal Basin Cellars most interesting wines, combining the flavors and characteristics of different grape varieties and regions to create a greater whole, a la Gestalt theory. It, like us, is a natural rule breaker and is a different blend each harvest. The grapes came from long-time Crystal Basin Cellar sources from 5 vineyards; each in El Dorado County. Each variety was hand harvested, fermented in small open top vessels, pressed lightly and aged separately in used oak barrels.

Blending trials were held to experiment with different approaches to the final blend. Once the final composition of the blend was determined the wine were blended together, then bottled unfiltered and unfiltered. Zinfandel leads with a unique Claret-from-the-Foothills quality to this wine, and seems to allow the best elements of the individual components to mesh and knit together. The Malbec and Merlot add deep, brooding, lingering strawberry fruit element to the wine, the Sangio adds spice and raspberry, Petit Verdot adds color and a cedary essence, all topped with a hint of sweet vanilla oak.

Renegade Red is perfectly enjoyable upon release but will improve for up to 36 months.

Take some home! It is our Tuesday night, non-pretentious, Pizza-and-Pasta wine.

