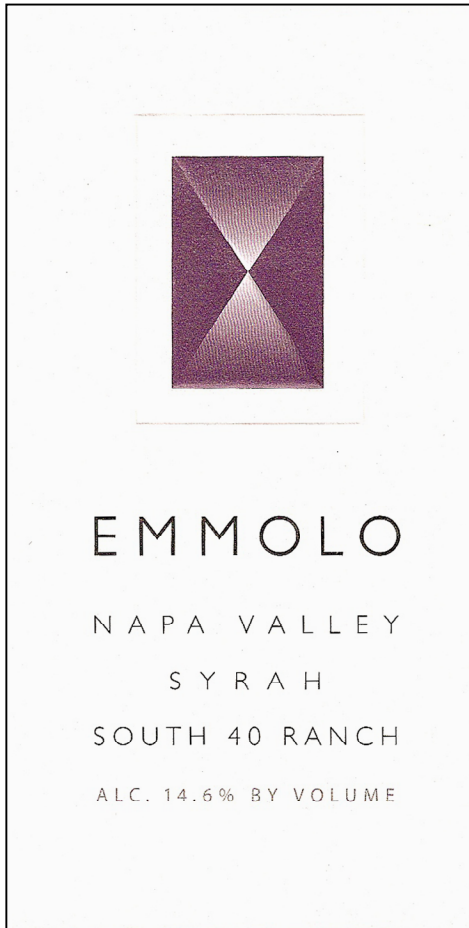


EMMOLO 2006 SYRAH

Nestled along the Silverado Trail is a small vineyard that has become known to our family as our "South 40 Ranch". For years, my father sold these grapes to other wineries. Recently, our family decided to produce a limited bottling of Syrah to honor my father, Frank Emmolo. I am making this wine to pay tribute to my Dad's lifelong dedication to the art of wine grape growing in Napa Valley. Our debut release is packed with intense black fruit, hints of earthiness, firm tannins and lots of heart. Thanks Dad.

Cheryl Emmolo, Owner



Notes from the Vineyard - The 2006 growing season had a tricky beginning with late winter rains followed by some heat spikes that sent us into early bloom. We then experienced mild temperatures throughout most of the summer. This warm trend helped the fruit ripen gradually through the end of harvest. Some leaf thinning, during the summer, increased the fruits exposure to sun and air. We were thrilled with the quality of fruit, at the time of harvest. The Syrah was hand-picked from October 12th through the 14th.

In the Cellar - To achieve optimal concentration of color and flavor, the temperatures were carefully controlled during fermentation. We also used a mix of fire hose pumpovers, irrigators and rack and returns to encourage greater extraction. This method allowed us to maintain refined and well-integrated fruit tannins. The wine then cooled to 65 degrees F for an extended cold soak. Malolactic fermentation was completed in custom-toasted and forest selection French oak barrels (Center of France tight grain). We used 50% new oak on our 2006 vintage. Our Syrah underwent sixteen months of barrel aging marrying the bold fruit flavors with notes of earth and spice.

The Bottle - We selected a unique bottle for this wine. Something that would remind my father of his home town in Partinico, Sicily. The "Bruni" bottle is sturdy and sound, like the Syrah inside. And yes, it does fit on a wine rack. The first bottle of our debut release was presented to my Dad on Father's Day. A mere 320 cases were produced.