

STOLPMAN VINEYARDS

2010 ESTATE SANGIOVESE

BALLARD CANYON

TECHNICAL & TASTING NOTES:

HARVEST DATES: October 10th - 21st, 2010
VATTING: 16 - 18 days
COOPERAGES & ELEVAGE: 500L puncheon, of which 100% neutral oak; 30 months total elevage
WHOLE CLUSTER: none
VINEYARD COMPONENTS: blocks 3 & 5
VARIETAL BLEND: 100% Sangiovese
FINAL ANALYSIS: Alcohol: 14.1%, TA: 6.3g/L pH: 3.5
BOTTLING DATE: July 12th 2013
RELEASE DATE: October 1st 2013
CASE PRODUCTION: 1435 cases



Planted throughout the early and mid 90s at the demand of self proclaimed "Italophile" Tom Stolpman, Sangiovese has flourished on Stolpman Vineyards, especially under the supervision of international consultant Alberto Antonini PHD. Dr. A dictated dry-farming the Sangiovese, and later, we were able to extend the practice to every mature block on the ranch.

Today, vineyard Manager Ruben Solorzano says that Sangiovese rivals Syrah as the easiest, most natural "fit" for Stolpman's Terroir. Raised for millennia in the rocky Tuscan hills, the varietal was bred to prosper on the arid Limestone hillsides and crowns in Ballard Canyon. With the Tuscan wine industry struggling to survive, Stolpman offers unique focus on the Varietal, especially with a moderate price tag relative to the ever-escalating retails of Sangiovese Grosso in Montalcino.

After experimenting with making a rustic "Classico" or "Rosso" version of Sangiovese under our "la Coppa" line, Sashi has decided there is no substitute for the extended neutral oak aging in the Italian "Riserva" style. This wine rests for over 30 months in 500 Liter puncheons before bottling. The long cask aging allows the fruit flavors to flesh out from the nose and front palate into the body of the wine and finish. The richness of the flavors couch the high acid and tannin of the varietal, making the drinking experience smoother.

The 2010 Estate Sangiovese carries on the "Cherry Leather Chocolate" trifecta to bring joy to devotees, and further bedevil critics who obsess over the definition of "new world Sangiovese". The 2010 carries an air of brightness with hints of red violet. The tannins are already coddled by lapping waves and layers of red fruit on the finish, but like the vintages prior, the Estate Sangiovese will fill out to become a mature beauty over the next few years.

Just have a glance at our inbox full of requests to buy library vintages of 2006 and 2007 Estate Sangiovese, and it's clear, this line becomes magical 3-4 years after release. - *Peter Stolpman*