

# 2012 Hobo Grenache Sceales Vineyard Alexander Valley



Every wine has a story. I was dropping Ida off at preschool early in 2011 and her preschool teacher asked me if I was interested in grapes that her father couldn't sell. I asked her what type of grapes they were, but she didn't know and I assumed Merlot or Syrah since he was having trouble selling them. Figuring I was kind of on the spot to make sure Ida had a good experience at preschool, I told the teacher to give my number to her father. He didn't call for a month and then on another day when I was dropping Ida off, she asked if her dad had called me yet. I said that he hadn't and she said that he probably would soon since he still couldn't sell the grapes. When he did finally call, he said he had about 4 acres of Grenache. That was instantly more interesting than I expected and told him I would head over the next day to have a lot. He didn't tell me over the phone that it is probably the oldest Grenache in Northern Sonoma County and probably one of the oldest Grenache vineyards in the state with vines over 80 years old. He also didn't tell me it was dry farmed. The rest is in the bottle.

2012 was a good year and my feeling is that the Sceales Vineyard behaved as it should in a good year, with very interesting flavors, moderate tannin, and a decent yield. We harvested a little over 4 tons from our rows. We fermented with native yeasts and 70% whole clusters. We foot tread the fermentors and pressed at dryness. The wine aged in a French oak foudre for about 12 months and was bottled unfinned and unfiltered. 273 cases produced.



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