

# ARIZONA STRONGHOLD



## 2008 NACHISE Rhone Blend

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### WINEMAKERS NOTES

The bulk of the grapes that went into this wine came from the middle aged and “Norte” blocks of Arizona Stronghold Vineyard. At picking, this fruit had very rustic flavors with good acidity and a lot of earth, spice, dark fruit and leafy characters. The syrah from the Norte block is a clone from Australia known as Shiraz-1. Norte was also the primary source for the Grenache and Petite Sirah that went into this wine which lent red fruit and a deep color, respectively.

Lavender, toasted sage and white pepper round out an earthy nose packed with blueberries, blackberries and aromas from the desert landscape. Plush dark fruit and mocha notes give way to an exceptional, old world, drying tannin midpalate and lead to a lingering black raspberry finish.

### VINTAGE NOTES

2008 was one of those years we had to pull all of our viticultural and winemaking tricks out. Yes, it was a challenging one. The season began well enough with no spring frost and moderate, early summer temperatures. We were initially excited when our monsoon rains came early (mid July) hoping they would come early and leave early. Unfortunately, that was not the case. Rain continued all the way into September and continued to hammer us on and off almost until October. Selective picking in the vineyard and judicious blending led to above average quality.

### SUGGESTED FOOD AND WINE PAIRINGS

Great with any type of game, roast lamb and grilled vegetables.

### WINE ANALYSIS

#### GRAPES

Syrah, Grenache, Petite Sirah,  
Mourvedre, Counoise

#### VINEYARDS

Arizona Stronghold, Carriage, Hames

#### VINTAGE

2008

#### pH

3.61

#### TA

6.7

#### ALCOHOL

14.7

#### AGEING

Neutral oak

#### BOTTLED

8.1.09

#### WINEMAKERS

Eric Glomski  
Tim White

#### CASES

2009

***“Redefining the Desert with High Elevation Wine”***