FEATURED WINES

2006 Bramble Ridge California Sangiovese

by some other name... courtesy of our friends at Bramble Ridge.

While Sangiovese has been cultivated in California for nearly 100 years, only in the last two decades or so has it received the attention it deserves.

In Italy, Sangiovese is the defining grape of Brunello di Montalcino and Chianti, and is a key component in many "Super Tuscan" blends that also include Cabernet Sauvignon. In California, the variety has built a following as vintners gradually discover the best places to grow it.

The hard-learned truth about Sangiovese is that this grape is much less adaptable than California vintners originally thought. It loves warm-to-hot days during the growing season, but also requires very cool nights to retain natural acidity at maturity. It also needs rocky soils and significant

water stress late in the growing season to limit yields and concentrate fruit character.

That's a mix of requirements that isn't always easy to find. But the winemakers at Bramble Ridge found a handful of vineyards in California's North Coast growing region that seemingly were "made" for growing high-quality Sangiovese.

That fruit provided the base for the 2006 Bramble Ridge Sangiovese bottling. For added complexity and depth of color, a splash of Syrah from the Central Coast region — the Paso Robles appellation, to be precise — was added.

The finished product? A lovely California rendition of an Italian classic, a food-friendly wine with a bright fruit impression in the mouth and fine tannins in the finish — the kind of finish that just begs for another sip... and another.

Cut out
this wine tag
and keep it with
your wine as
a handy
reference.

2006 Bramble Ridge California Sangiovese

This fruitful and food-friendly wine offers impressions of sandalwood, smoked meat, caramel, bright cherry, raspberry and cranberry.

FOOD PAIRING SUGGESTIONS: pasta with a red sauce, spinach lasagna, or pizza.

Call 1-800-823-5527 to order more of this wine.

TASTING NOTES

Grape Composition:

92% Sangiovese and 8% Syrah

Grape Source:

North Coast and Paso Robles Area Vineyards in California

Aromas and Flavors:

Sandalwood, Smoked Meat, Caramel, Bright Cherry, Raspberry and Cranberry

When to Drink:

Now Through 2011

Our Tasting Panel Score:

89 Points