

**Peters Family Winery****2002 Syrah, Clements Ridge Vineyard (Lodi)**

This Sebastopol-based winery releases wines from Sonoma, the Sierra Foothills, and Lodi. Owner and winemaker Douglas M. Peters' philosophy is European. He wants to showcase terroir, or sense of place. His newly released Dunah Vineyard Pinot Noir from the Sonoma Coast appellation is doing that quite well, as is a Hyde Vineyard Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. With cooler climates, it is easier to showcase terroir as fruit is not as top heavy. Lodi is not quite as cool as the Sonoma Coast, but even here Peters manages to coax more than just ripe fruit from the wine.

Sourcing fruit from Clements Ridge, a vineyard within the newly recognized [Clements Hills AVA](#), was a good move. With elevations up to 400 feet, microclimates vary, but the area is, according to latest AVA information, warmer and wetter than western Lodi. The combination bodes well for Syrah.

Slightly hazy on the surface, the wine is opaque ruby with pink at the meniscus and very viscous. On the nose cherry fruit is complemented by smoke, tar, and tree bark notes. The wine is full-bodied with notes of barnyard, cherry, and plum on the palate. Oak tannins become chalky towards the finish. Decant or age for best results.

Reviewed June 11, 2007 by [Catherine Fallis](#).

THE WINE

Winery: [Peters Family Winery](#)
Vineyard: Clements Ridge Vineyard
Vintage: 2002
Wine: Syrah
Appellation: [Lodi](#)
Grape: [Syrah](#) / [Shiraz](#)
Price: \$25.00

THE REVIEWER**Catherine Fallis**

Founder and President of Planet Grape LLC, a company committed to bringing the joy of wine, food, and good living into the lives of everyday people, Catherine is creator of the "grape goddess guides to good living," a series of books, television presentations, seminars, and e-learning programs. The fifth woman in the world to become a Master Sommelier, grape goddess Catherine Fallis is still very much down-to-earth.