



BARDEN
2017 Syrah, STA. RITA HILLS

The BARDEN trade name is Doug Margerum's middle name and its English meaning is "Lives near the boar's den..." thusly, we have adorned the label with an image of the wild boar that is pervasive in our area's vineyards.

Vineyard Region: Sta. Rita Hills -Donnachadh (100%) - a five barrel selection.

Vintage Conditions: Another very early harvest beginning August 3rd. Heat waves perpetuated picking, otherwise summer was consistently mild. Theoretically 2017 marked the official end of California's five-year drought; it did not end it in Santa Barbara County. The wetter winter did have the effect of percolating soils and reducing the salts in some of the vineyards. Clear skies and warm spring weather allowed for consistent flowering overall, with average to below average yields. We enjoyed fairly even ripening and picking was rhythmic.

Harvest Date: 10/2/2017 ~ **Brix (at harvest):** 23.7
Alcohol: 12.6 ~ **pH:** 3.68 ~ **TA:** 6.2

Fermentation Regimen - Fermented in 400 liter open top insulated fermenters in our 55 F winery, 50% Whole Cluster, 7 day cold soak, 10 days fermentation, pressed and barreled in 50% New Ermitage barriques, MLF in barrel and racked 1 time. Time in Barrel: 18 months

Barden Syrah is shaped and sculptured. Its drapes reveal dark places full of the unknown; frighteningly sinister, packed, and powerful. Syrah is our blood-right and our passion.

Production in Cases: 96

Winemaker comments:

Color: Beautiful dark velvet red hues

Aroma: Aromas of deep dark wild berries, intense fruit and a black pepper spiciness. As the wine opens more savage and powerful intense notes of olive and black licorice jump out of the glass.

Palate: Juicy and concentrated on the palate, mineral-driven and pure, with an excellent finish. Overall the persistent soft tannins, balanced acidity and loads of fruit bode well for long aging of 15 to 20 years.

Peak Drinking: Now - and with up to twenty years of bottle age from vintage.

MARGERUM WINE COMPANY
59 Industrial Way, Buellton, CA 93427
P 805.686.8500 • F 805.686.8533
info@margerumwines.com • www.bardenwines.com