

Margerum Wine Company 2012 M5 Santa Barbara County

FIVE GRAPES - ELEVEN VINEYARDS - ONE WINE

The Blend: 43% Grenache: Alamo Creek, Camp 4, Rodney's, and Black Oak vineyards, 41% Syrah: Colson Canyon, Black Oak, Great Oak, John Sebastiano, and Alondra de los Prados vineyards, 9% Mourvedre: Curtis and Zaca Mesa vineyard, 4% Cinsault: Camp 4 vineyard, 3% Counoise: Camp 4 vineyard.

M5 Mission statement: M5 is a wine that is from a thought—a blend that is an amalgamation of memories, both distant and recent, from the numerous wines I have tasted and loved.

Vineyard Regions: Santa Barbara County, San Luis Obispo County, Sta. Rita Hills, and Foxen Canyon

Vintage Conditions: 2012 was a good year for growers, as the yields were high and the quality was very good. Nice cool mild summer, low wind spring, so a great set. No rain, no frost, and no storms – amazingly. Summer arrived with little fog and perfect clear warm (not hot) days allowed for slow grape development retaining natural grape acidity resulting in low alcohol wines with rich concentrated varietal flavors.

Maturation: This wine was matured for 9 months in neutral French oak barriques.

Wine Analysis: Alcohol 14.5%, pH 3.58, and TA 6.1g/L.

Production: 3008 cases.

Winemaker

Winemaker comments:

Color: Ruby Red, bright

Aroma: Dark plum, youthful fruits come immediately to the fore, with perfumed Grenache and rose-petal floral aromas. A whirl of assorted spices further entwines with charcuterie undertones.

Palate: A firm, solid offering with an impressive grip with ripe tannins. A burst of berried Grenache flavors initially impact, followed by the black olive, licorice and dark chocolate contribution of Syrah and earthy Mourvedre.

Peak Drinking: Now-2019