

49% Grenache 31% Syrah 10% Mourvèdre 5% Counoise 5% Cinsault

**Alcohol**: 14.7%

**pH** 3.56 **TA** 6.2 g/L

**Production**: 348 cases



## Santa Barbara County

## FIVE GRAPES - TWELVE VINEYARDS - ONE WINE

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 we have tasted and loved.

M5 Reserve is made from a small lot of our flagship M5, which we then age as a blend for an additional year in one large French Oak 2,000-liter Ermitage Foudre to create a richer, more complex wine.

**AVA Composition:** 50% Los Olivos District, 34% Santa Ynez Valley, 7% Sta. Rita Hills, 4% Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara, and 5% Ballard Canyon.

**Vintage Conditions:** Santa Barbara County had a cool spring and mild summer temperatures that extended the growing season. Harvest began in the last half of August and the weather that followed had the usual summer heat waves. It was a very quick and even harvest with yields that were average to below average helping to produce pronounced flavors and aromatics. Most importantly for us is that we did not have the fires that plagued the vineyards to the north. We are very happy with the quality of the wine and the "numbers" (pH, TA, Alc.) have resulted in very balanced wines.

**Maturation:** Each varietal component was pressed after fermentation and matured for 10 months in seasoned French oak barrels and puncheons. M5 is then blended and a portion is "reserved" for one year longer. 21 months total aging.

Color: Dark rich black hues with dark red tones.

**Aroma:** Very complex with a collection of dark berry fruit, earthy notes of leather and grilled meats, and baking spices wrapped up in beautiful toast notes.

**Palate:** Powerful and concentrated with rich black boysenberry fruits, leather and tobacco leaf. Structured with round tannins that bodes well for aging.