

2021 Estate Syrah Block Three

Los Olivos District

This is a first-time bottling from a very special block of Syrah at the Estate which consistently delivers the most distinctive Syrah from the property. We attribute the *specialness* of this fruit to its planting on limestone soils, which only further increases vine stress and produces more intense fruit. The wine from this block is typically blended into our main Estate Syrah with the other clones because it nicely balances out that wine's exuberance. This year delivered such a statement and was such a special wine that we wanted to bottle some of it on its own.

Composition: 100% Estate Vineyard, 100% Alban Clone

AVA Composition: 100% Los Olivos District

Vintage Conditions: Santa Barbara County had a cool spring and mild summer temperatures that extended the growing season. Harvest began in the fall allowing for increased flavors due to hang time. The weather was mild, and we had a long timeframe in which to carefully pick for optimal flavors. Yields were slightly above average but the weather cooperated permitting us to have pronounced flavors and aromatics. We are very happy with the quality of the wine and the "numbers" (pH, TA, Alc.) are perfect resulting in very balanced wines.

Maturation: This wine was matured for 10 months in a mixture of 13 old and new Ermitage barrels and was never racked until bottling. 54% of the grapes were fermented as whole-cluster

Color: Saturated dark blue and black hues.

Aroma: Extremely exotic and full of dark wildness and briar patch. Very meaty, herbal, spicy and loaded with various Mediterranean nuances. Very old world.

Palate: Big, intense and effusively rich. Loaded with dark nuances of bramble berry, cocoa, dried herbs and black spices. Very concentrated, expansive and mouth-coasting. The wine takes all this complexity and integrates these textures into a testament to the quality of the vineyard. Not for the faint of heart. Wine of the vintage.



100% Syrah

Alcohol 14.7% pH 3.71 TA 6.2 g/L. Production 51 cases