

100% Syrah

Alcohol 14.6% **pH** 3.63 **TA** 5.5 g/L. **Production** 94 cases



2022 Estate Syrah Block Three

Los Olivos District

This is our second 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 also blended into our Estate Syrah with the other clones we've planted because it nicely balances out that wine's exuberance. This block delivers such a statement wine that we bottle a limited amount of it on its own.

Composition: 100% Estate Vineyard, 100% Alban Clone

AVA Composition: Los Olivos District

Vintage Conditions: Santa Barbara County had ideal growing conditions for most of the year and mild summer temperatures until an extended Labor Day heat wave hit. We were ready and harvested most of the early ripening varietals before and right at the beginning of the heat. Of course, that was followed by rain but after that the weather was mild, and we had a long timeframe for the remainder of harvest in which to carefully pick for optimal flavors. Yields were slightly below average. The weather cooperated for the remainder of the year permitting us to pick and process to produce wines with excellent flavors and abundant aromatics.

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

Color: Saturated dark blue and black hues.

Aroma: Intense and very concentrated aromas of dark briary fruit mixed with a beautiful array of freshly charred meat, wood, herbs and Mediterranean spices. Sultry and old world.

Palate: Big, rich and intense. Loaded with dark berry fruit, dried herbs and dark chocolate. Concentrated with a mouth-coating and expansive presence. The wine takes all this complexity and integrates these textures beautifully into an incredible wine and is a testament to the quality of the vineyard.