



## WINEMAKER NOTES

The 2017 Santa Barbara County Syrah embodies SAMsARA's spicy/savory style while still retaining dark blue and black fruit flavors typical of Syrah. 75% whole-cluster fermentation adds texture, depth, and aromatic complexity.

Vineyard sources: Zotovich – 32%, Zaca Mesa – 20%, Donnachadh – 20%, Colson Canyon – 8%, JSV – 8%, Grenache (blend of Larner and Colson) - 12%

## WINEMAKING

Cases:	444
Appellation:	Santa Barbara County
Varietal composition:	100% Syrah
Clonal selection:	Clone 1, 470, Estrella
% Whole cluster:	75%
Soil at site:	Sand, Sand/Loam, DE, Limestone
Barrels   Aging:	100% neutral French oak   22 months
Alcohol:	13.8
Brix:	22.7-25.2
pH at harvest:	3.36-3.56
Finished pH:	3.62
Finished TA:	6.3 g/L
Harvest date:	9/27/2017 - 10/12/2017
Bottling date:	May 2019
Release date   Price:	Spring 2020   \$42.00

## 2017 VINTAGE

Winter rain between 2016 and 2017 was a welcome relief from the severe 5-year drought. The 2017 growing season was extremely moderate, the only exception being a pre-harvest heat spike and some tropical moisture, followed by more moderate weather through harvest's end. The wines retain very bright acidity, with full and ripe flavors.

## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

The wine region of Santa Barbara County is located north of the city of Santa Barbara and includes the Santa Ynez Valley and Santa Maria Valley. A defining feature of the region that makes it ideal for grape growing are the transverse, (east-to-west running) mountain ranges that funnel the marine climate inland. The marine fog and wind have a moderating effect on the vines prolonging the growing season and providing a longer hang time for the fruit.

## ACCOLADES

92 points, Wine Enthusiast "Very tarry aromas of asphalt, black pepper dust and charred wood give a savory wrapping to the underlying blackberry tone of this county blend. There's a tangy berry flavor to the palate, where peppery spices meet with wild thyme and green-herb flavors." Matt Kettmann, Aug 2020

92 points, Wine Advocate "The 2017 Syrah Santa Barbara County has a medium ruby-purple color and a nose of crushed black and blue berry fruits with touches of mint chocolate, olive and charcuterie. It's medium-bodied with Goldilocks ripeness and savory accents, finely framed and finishing long with bright pops of freshness. It's a lovely, understated style." Erin Brooks, Oct 2020