



### WINEMAKER NOTES

This is the sum of compelling parts from both warm and cool vineyard sites like Zotovich and John Sebastiano in the Sta. Rita Hills, and Colson Canyon in Santa Maria. Matt Brady blended that fruit into a complex wine combining savory notes of clove and licorice with dark, tense fruit elements of blueberry and carob. Over the course of three days the wine truly blossomed, starting out brooding and turned in on itself, becoming tactile and fine-grained, relaxed and composed, ideal for a lamb feast. —P.J.C., Wine & Spirits

### WINEMAKING

Cases:	137
Appellation:	Santa Barbara County
Varietal composition:	100% Syrah
Clonal selection:	Clone 1, 470, 877
% Whole cluster:	75%
Soil at site:	Sand/DE/Loam/Limestone
Barrels   Aging:	100% neutral French oak   16 months
Alcohol:	13.7
Brix:	22.8-25.0
pH at harvest:	3.36-3.56
Finished pH:	3.62
Finished TA:	6.3 g/L
Harvest date:	10/16/2018 - 10/29/2018
Bottling date:	July 2020
Release date:	September 2021

### 2018 VINTAGE

The 2018 vintage is the stuff dreams are made of. The most 'classic' Santa Barbara County vintage of the decade with a cool, long growing season. A very 'civilized' harvest with no dramatic heat events or adverse weather. We were finally out of the half-decade drought thanks to the heavy rainfall in 2017, and vineyards were healthy and happy. Yields were moderate with some sites being slightly below average. The slightly low yields combined with extra 'hang-time' in 2018 resulted in super balanced and physiologically ripe fruit.

### 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

94 Points - Wine Advocate *Medium ruby-purple, the 2018 Syrah Santa Barbara County is bright and alluring, with pure aromas of red cherries, aniseed, powdered sugar, milk chocolate and olive. The medium-bodied palate is soft, plush and juicy, with bright spicy accents uplifting the finish. It's a deeply fruited but very drinkable Syrah that's approachable even at this youthful stage.* - Erin Brooks

94 Points - Wine Enthusiast **EDITOR'S CHOICE** *This appellation blend is a smart way to indulge in winemaker Matt Brady's cool-climate ways. Focused aromas of white and black peppercorns meet with tea leaves, cranberry and a hint of tar on the nose. The palate is zesty and light on its feet, with forest berry, elderflower and botanical floral flavors adding to the intrigue.* - Matt Kettmann

93 Points - Wine & Spirits