

2019 GRENACHE JOHN SEBASTIANO

STA. RITA HILLS

A lot of the Grenache world is pretty warm, if not hot. But here on the eastern edge of Sta. Rita Hills this varietal struggles to ripen because of the chilly coastal wind that scours these slopes. That allows for a long season to develop profound color and flavor in the grapes, while avoiding over-the-top ripeness that tends to efface this grape's subtler charms. In the cool 2019 vintage, we think we've harnessed what's arguably our pinnacle expression of cool-climate Grenache.

You find yourself simultaneously blown away and enticed by scents of sweet muddled berry medley, kirsch, woody herbs and flowers. While that's all familiar for this wine, the sheer concentration sets this 2019 apart. The entry on the palate is rich, dark fruited and laced with savory herbs. Then you find a lively interplay between glossy fruit and spicy tannin that lengthens the wine, leaving notes of sweet raspberry, pomegranate candy, and bloomed spices. Right now, once it's fully aerated this wine is yummy as can be, but some cellaring will make this an indelible experience of Grenache.

BLEND 100% Grenache

VINEYARDS John Sebastiano Vineyard

AVA Sta. Rita Hills **ALCOHOL** 14.0%

VINIFICATION open top fermentation with 13% whole clusters

BARREL AGING 14 months in neutral French oak

TOTAL PRODUCTION 280 Cases

PRESS REVIEWS

Antonio Galloni's VINOUS

"A structured, deep wine that impresses with power and textural intensity. All the Grenache signatures are dialed up in this super-intriguing wine from Adam Tolmach and Fabien Castel. A dollop of whole clusters (14%) add character, without dominating the balance. The Grenache is one of the most impressive wines in this tasting." **94 Points**

Jeb Dunnuck

"From a site on the eastern side of the Sta. Rita Hills, the 2019 Grenache John Sebastiano Vineyard offers up a terrific nose of ripe raspberry and strawberry-like fruits as well as a more floral, spicy style. This carries to the palate as well, and it's medium-bodied, beautifully balanced, and elegant. Don't let the elegant, mid-weight style fool you, this will keep for 10-12 years." **92 Points**

