



2020 GRENACHE

JOHN SEBASTIANO

STA RITA HILLS

TASTING NOTE:

Our Grenache from John Sebastiano Vineyard is unlike any other that we can think of—the cool, windy environment here makes for Grenache with color, aroma, and freshness that’s just off the charts. Your first hint at the vibrancy of this wine shows in the color—a deep translucent purple with beams of fuchsia throughout. The fragrances are effusive and focused on Grenache’s immense fruit—in this case, mulberry and raspberry coulis—yet it’s layered with earthy scents of dried flowers, grated spice and woody greenery. The entry on the palate is rich with dark fruits laced by savory herbs and minerals, then you find a lively textural interplay between glossy fruit, spicy tannin, and racy acidity.

This 2020 bottling is especially bold and structured, so for the next couple of years it’ll be best when paired with rich fatty foods—some carnitas or slow-roasted crispy duck would be perfect.

VINTAGE & WINEMAKING:

The 2020 vintage was a relentlessly warm and sunny year, thus with a fast and compact harvest. Per usual, this Grenache fruit closed out our season when we picked it on October 9th. It was quite ripe at over 24 brix, yet with a pH of 3.2 everything was there to make a precisely balanced wine.

We destemmed most of the crop, leaving 25% whole-clusters, then inoculated the tank with our house-cultured native yeast (obtained from fruit picked during sampling). After fermenting dry, the wine was pressed, settled, then racked into neutral French oak to age for 15 months. It was bottled unfiltered and unfined.

BLEND 100% Grenache

VINEYARDS John Sebastiano

AVA Sta Rita Hills

ALCOHOL 14.5%

VINIFICATION open-top fermentation with 25% whole-clusters

BARREL AGING 15 months in neutral French Oak barrels

TOTAL PRODUCTION 121 Cases

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THE
OJAI
VINEYARD