

the hilt

2023

The Estate wines are defined by the fruit and flavors of our little southwestern corner of the Sta. Rita Hills. They speak of the nuances and complexities of our properties as a whole. These wines take into account the many aspects, clones, soil types and other properties of our estate. They give us the maximum amount of blending components and, represent the most complete wines in our portfolio.

Matt Dees, Winemaker Notes

Explosively aromatic, wild, and inviting. Luxardo cherry, dried black mulberry, and green peppercorn. Gochujang chili, birch bark, and loamy diatomaceous dust. Blackberry, five-spice, and mulberry on the palate. Vinous and structured; earthy and supple. Reminiscent of the woody notes of a Santa Barbara oak forest. Still tight and young, but it opens in glass and rewards aeration. So complex and layered that I could write tasting notes about this wine for days. Within a few short years, this bottling has reached the upper echelon of our Estate wine portfolio and absolutely deserves a seat next to the other Hilt Estate wines. So tense and electric, yet it finishes with such gentle, but coating and spice-driven tannins. With only a minuscule amount of sulfur ever added to this wine, this syrah is able to fully express its entire spectrum of charm. It shines today. This must truly be one of the coldest sites for syrah in our state. There is no other syrah like The Hilt Estate Syrah.

Estate Syrah

CASES:	339
ALCOHOL:	12.5%
BLEND:	100% Syrah
APPELLATION:	Sta. Rita Hills
CLONAL SELECTION:	635 Radian Vineyard (cl. 470, Alban PB) 37% Bentreck Vineyard (cl. 470, Alban PB)
VINE AGE:	15
BARREL REGIME:	12 months in 90% neutral French oak, 10% new French oak then 4 months in stainless tank. 50% Whole cluster fermentation

99 Points

Jonathan Cristaldi, 6/2025

