



2023 ESTATE SYRAH

Sta. Rita Hills

In 1997, we developed the *Evan's Ranch Vineyard* in the western Santa Ynez Valley, planting fifty-four acres of Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah and Grenache. Named for Dan Gainey's Great Grandfather, this decision proved to be quite strategic as this was several years ahead of what was to become the most exciting cold-climate growing region in California, the Sta. Rita Hills.



This area is very special due to its east-west mountain orientation, which allows for the onslaught of cold Pacific Ocean winds. In combination with our sunny climate, *refrigerated-sunlight* conditions are created allowing us to grow beautifully intense fruit that preserves the vibrancy, complexity and elegance associated with world-class wines. These challenging conditions are further stressed by the marine-based and clay driven soils dominating the vineyard.

Syrah in cold regions grows far more differently than warmer climates and has a style more closely associated with the cold and windy Northern Rhône in France. It is more non-fruited than the robust styles in warmer areas and offers so much more in flavor, spice, palate presence and sophistication. Aromatically, it drifts towards Mediterranean aromas like black olive, white pepper, rosemary and purple flowers but also fascinating earthier notes like saddle leather, grilled meats and roasted earth.

<i>Harvest Dates</i>	<i>October 11 – November 7</i>
<i>Composition</i>	<i>100% Syrah</i>
<i>Winemaking</i>	<i>Open-top and Whole Berry Fermented, Pressed and aged 14 months in 80% neutral oak, 20% new French oak.</i>
<i>Alcohol</i>	<i>Alcohol 14.1%, TA 5.8 grams/liter, 3.67 pH</i>
<i>Retail</i>	<i>\$30 per bottle</i>

Tasting Notes

Dark electric purple color with rustic briary aromas of wild blue and black berries readily mix with a fascinating mélange of non-fruited characteristics such as dried herbs, minerals, wet earth and brown tobacco leaf. Mouth-staining and full palate presence yields to a long and very satiating experience. A delicious and complex wine that over-delivers for its price. Enjoy with and barbecued and roasted meats and vegetables. Drink now through 2038. 172 cases. \$30.

Farming since 1962. Winemaking since 1984.

Gainey Estate Vineyards
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