

2007 Highflyer Syrah

Star Lane Vineyard - Clone 877 / Somerston Vineyards

Highflyer

At Highflyer, we work with small, family-owned, benchmark vineyards throughout California where terroir and variety are in perfect alignment. We harvest fruit from the Santa Lucia Highlands, Santa Maria Valley, Bennett Valley, Santa Ynez and Napa Valley to produce wines that are thought-provoking, varietally and regionally accurate and delicious. Our name references our winemaker/owner Craig Becker's other great passion in life: aviation. As a private pilot Craig can fly to a distant region, walk the site, meet with the vineyard management team to ensure our strict farming protocols are being followed and still be home in time for dinner.

Vineyard

Star Lane Vineyard (Santa Barbara), located at the far eastern end of the Santa Ynez Valley, is both the warmest and the highest elevation vineyard in the appellation. The 4,000-acre property is planted to 237 acres of grapevines. Backing up to the lower slopes of the San Rafael Mountains, Star Lane features a unique range of weathered sand, gravel and alluvial cobbles over a clay/loam subsoil, an ideal for location for Syrah.

Weather

The 2007 growing season is one of classic character; late Spring rains delayed bud-break and the harvest was approximately two to three weeks later than "average" in getting started. Following a July heat spell, temperatures moderated to provide very even-ripening conditions that persisted through a beautiful Indian summer in October.

Winemaking

This intense, inky-hued wine displays expressive aromas of crushed blackberries, dark chocolate and exotic floral notes. It is deep, dark and densely brooding, as flavors of plum, mocha and licorice fill the palate, finishing with persistent notes of supple tannins and gravelly finesse.



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