

# 2022 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 off the charts. This 2022 John Sebastiano Grenache has all that despite the warm vintage, which seemed to enhance its charms.

Your first hint at the vibrancy of this wine is in how it pleases the eyes. There's a deeply saturated but translucent purple with beams of fuchsia throughout. The fragrances are effusive and focused on Grenache's immense fruit—in this case, mulberry, black cherry, and raspberry coulis—yet it's layered with earthy scents of dried flowers, grated spice, and woody greenery. It rolls across the palate with a round plushness at first, with creamy notes of mulberry and raspberry that are animated by that sweet-tang quality of pomegranate concentrate. Earthy savor kicks in on the back half with whole-cluster flavors of woody herbs and nutmeg, then it closes out with ultra-fine mineral tannin and mouthwatering fruit.

This 2022 Grenache has all the goods to make your toes curl now. So much so that the wine almost argues to be consumed soon. But no, our older JSV Grenaches are in great shape with ten years in bottle, only packing on more intrigue.

#### VINEYARD:

John Sebastiano Vineyard was planted in 2007 and produced its first crop in 2010. It is located on the northeastern edge of the Santa Rita Hills appellation, way up in the hills where the vines are scoured by ferocious winds that come in from the ocean at Vandenberg Air Force Base. This is a very different place than most of the Grenache world, which tends to be pretty warm, if not hot. Those environments are where Grenache shines as a blending grape. At John Sebastiano, we've found there's an ethereal completeness in Grenache, thanks to the fact that it truly struggles to ripen here (in 2021 it never ripened fully).

This fruit is always the last to come into our cellar, often in early November. The long growing season that this site allows for Grenache helps the grapes develop exceptional color, aromatics, and flavor, while also preserving an uncommon freshness and acidity. We haven't tasted any Grenache from the Southern Rhone or Spain that reminds us of this wine. It's simply alive, fresh, and complete in a way that's unusual for Grenache.

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**BLEND** 100% Grenache

**VINEYARDS** John Sebastiano

**AVA** Sta Rita Hills

**ALCOHOL** 13.5%

**VINIFICATION** open-top fermentation with 26% whole-clusters

**BARREL AGING** 14 months in neutral French Oak barrels

**TOTAL PRODUCTION** 182 Cases

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