



LINCOURT

Sta. Rita Hills
2018 SYRAH

OVERVIEW

When Proprietor Bill Foley founded Lincourt in 1996, the Sta. Rita Hills region of Santa Barbara county was largely undiscovered. Today it is one of California's most coveted, cool-climate, viticultural regions. Lincourt's wines are produced entirely from our two estate vineyards within the AVA. They are rolling hillside sites that offer 'limiting' soils, large diurnal temperature swings and long growing seasons. Our wines are rich, structured, fruit forward and regionally exact.

SUSTAINABILITY

At Lincourt, we believe that a vibrant, living environment has a positive effect on the health of the vines and the character and quality of the wines. To ensure the vitality of our land and the authenticity of our wines, we use sustainable methods in all of our farming, winemaking and business practices.

VINTAGE

The 2018 vintage kicked off with an extremely unusual heat spike in February that sent the vines into a rapid, early start but was quickly followed by a cold spell. Frost events had longer duration than prior years and the season continued its cold to moderate temperature pattern through May. The first pop of real heat finally arrived mid-June and temperatures remained moderate the rest of the growing season allowing the grapes to gradually ripen. We started picking 3 weeks later than typical but the rich flavor profiles were worth the wait.

VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING

As part of the original Spanish Land Grant, Rancho Santa Rosa is one of Santa Barbara's most historic properties. This beautiful south-facing hillside climbs from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level. It features 59 individual micro-blocks delineated by terroir, soil type, elevation, grade and exposure to the maritime winds off the Pacific Ocean. Following harvest, the fruit was cold soaked for a few days to extract color, flavor and tannin prior to fermentation. The wine was aged for 18 months in French oak barrels, 60% of which were new.

TASTING NOTES

One of the gems on our estate vineyard is our limited production, cool climate Syrah. Our 2018 is inky in color with aromas of black cherry, and black pepper that evolve into notes of dry cedar and caramelized sugar. The palate is powerful with blueberry, smoked meat and is accented by pomegranate fruit. Structured tannins and acidity linger into notes of dried herbs and black olive on the finish.

APPELLATION	Sta. Rita Hills
VINEYARD	Rancho Santa Rosa East blocks IA and ID
HARVEST DATE	Sept 24-Nov 2, 2018
COMPOSITION	100% Syrah
BARREL AGING	18 months in French and American oak, 60% new
ALCOHOL	14.3%
TA	6.7 g/L
pH	3.6
BOTTLING DATE	June 15, 2020
PRODUCTION	230 cases