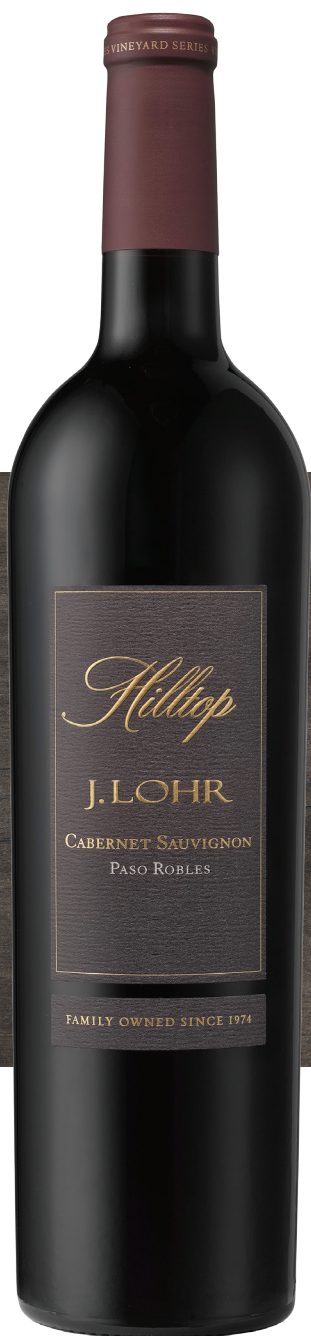


“Exhilarating blackberry and blueberry aromas are enhanced by crushed violet, herbes de Provence, and spiced tea. On the palate, dense and soft, with finely textured tannins. Juicy layers of black and red currants lead to a bright finish, accented by pastry notes from extended barrel aging.”

- **Brenden Wood**  
RED WINEMAKER



# 2021 J. LOHR HILLTOP CABERNET SAUVIGNON

## Paso Robles

J. LOHR VINEYARD SERIES

### VINEYARDS

The primary source of this year's Hilltop Cabernet Sauvignon blend was our J. Lohr Shotwell Vineyard located within the cool, Templeton Gap-influenced El Pomar District of Paso Robles. Our J. Lohr Beck Vineyard provided 10% of the fruit from its 1,700 foot elevation in the La Panza range in the Creston District. The final 10% of the blend comes from our J. Lohr ranches located within the mountainous Adelaida District. As is typical, we've added small amounts of estate grown Petit Verdot, Malbec, and Cabernet Franc to hone the final wine. Our Cabernet vines are naturally stressed in the dry, often very gravelly, and sometimes lime shale-laden soils in the region. Water is at a premium in these vineyards, enabling the viticulturist to fine-tune pruning and irrigation to achieve dark fruit with resolved tannins year after year.

### VINTAGE

In Paso Robles, we received generous pre-season rainfall during January 2021, but an especially dry winter and spring followed. Dry conditions in 2021 forced vines to produce small but concentrated berries, typical of drought years in the Paso Robles appellation. Consistently mild daytime temperatures, though, paired with cool nights to keep berries fresh; this allowed winegrowers the luxury of patience to harvest grapes at optimal ripeness. As a result, extractable anthocyanin content in red varieties in Paso Robles reached an all-time high, with resulting wines easily eclipsing color density levels of the acclaimed 2007, 2013, and 2019 vintages. The 2021 J. Lohr Hilltop Cabernet Sauvignon shows unprecedented concentration and depth, with finesse and an astonishing purity of fruit. Please decant for utmost enjoyment.

### HARVEST

**DATES**  
*September 22 to October 15th, 2021*

**PROCESS**  
*Select Harvest picked and berry sorted*

**CHEMISTRIES**  
*Brix 27.3°  
TA 0.55g/100ml  
pH 3.46*

### COMPOSITION

*95% Cabernet Sauvignon,  
3% Petit Verdot, 1% Malbec, 1% Cabernet Franc*

### VINIFICATION

**FERMENTATION**  
*Primary fermentation in open-top and conventional stainless steel tanks*

**TEMPERATURE**  
*Peak fermentation at 90°F*

**MACERATION**  
*Seven days on skins for most lots*

**MALOLACTIC**  
*100% malolactic complete*

### MATURATION

**TIME IN BARREL**  
*16 months in 225-liter barrels*

**BARREL TYPE**  
*French oak, very tight grain, 40% new*

**COOPERS**  
*Berger, Marcel Cadet, Saint Martin, Sylvain, Taransaud*

### BOTTLING

**ACIDITY**  
*pH 3.56  
TA 0.64 g/100ml*

**ALCOHOL**  
*15.0% by volume*

**RESIDUAL SUGAR**  
*0.07 g/100ml (dry)*

**PRODUCTION**  
*110,000 6-bottle cases*

### CELLARING

Complex and refined dark fruit upon release with the structure to age gracefully for 10 to 15 years when properly cellared.

### WINE LIST DESCRIPTION

A benchmark Paso Robles Cabernet Sauvignon displaying elegant layers of blackberry, currant, and toasted pastry.

### FOOD PAIRINGS

Delicious with rosemary-seasoned ribeye and garlic roasted potatoes with parsnips and fennel.

