



“Fragrant blackberry and blueberry aromas with touches of sandalwood, sage, and brown sugar. Abundant dark berry fruit glides across the palate with nuanced tannins, cranberry notes, and a peppery kick on the finish.”

—Brenden Wood, red winemaker

2023 J. LOHR *GESTURE* SYRAH

PASO ROBLES ADELAIDA DISTRICT

VINEYARD & VINTAGE

The J. Lohr *Gesture* Syrah comes from our J. Lohr Stairway Vineyard in the Adelaida District of western Paso Robles. This Syrah grows on soil series 113 (Balcom-Calleguas complex), on 50% to 75% slopes. Only crawler tractors can be used to safely farm this steep site. This part of Paso Robles is an ancient uplifted seabed so fossilized that seashells are often found in the ground - even though the vineyard is perched at 1,500 foot average elevation. The climate at Stairway is ideal for growing Syrah. Daytime high temperatures are moderated by afternoon breezes from the nearby Pacific coast. This helps the Syrah to ripen slowly and preserve its spicy, peppery varietal components.

Paso Robles experienced record winter rainfall from December 2022 to March 2023. Rain totals for the season were nearly double the 30-year average, recharging the parched soil profiles after two years of drought-like conditions. Colder weather persisted through much of the growing season. Veraison occurred during the second and third weeks of August, about two weeks behind schedule. Thankfully, near perfect warm weather arrived October through November. This allowed us to wait until late autumn to harvest fruit with optimal flavor and anthocyanin development. The fruit for this bottling was handpicked from Blocks 15 and 17 of of Stairway, near the summit of the ranch at 1,700 feet.

TECHNICAL NOTES

APPELLATION: *Paso Robles Adelaida District AVA, San Luis Obispo County, CA*

COMPOSITION: 100% Syrah

MATURATION: 15 months barrel aging in 5-year-old French cooperage

CHEMISTRIES: pH: 3.60 • TA: 0.59 • Alc: 15.9% • RS: 0.06% (dry)

PRODUCTION: 478 cases

FOOD PAIRING & CELLARING

Matches wonderfully with mushroom and wine-braised beef with windowpane potato chips. Will age gracefully, when properly cellared, through 2029.



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