



# MARGERUM

## 2013 Black Oak Syrah

Santa Barbara County

Black Oak Syrah is a stunning vineyard located in the Los Alamos Valley Hills. The vineyard is planted to Syrah Clone 99 and Syrah Clone 877. The 2012 Black Oak Syrah 67% clone 877 and 33% clone 99. We believe this wine from this vineyard is the most age worthy of our single vineyard Syrah.

**Vineyard Region:** Los Alamos Valley, Santa Barbara County AVA

**Vintage Conditions:** The 2013 vintage is going to go down as a great one. Following a dry winter, there was early bud break and a large fruit set. The growing season was even and warm, flowing into a moderate, dry fall. The standout characteristic for 2013 wines: complete ripeness without high sugar levels. The wines are powerful and concentrated. The worry in Santa Barbara is about the drought. The lack of rainfall has positive quality implications, but we need winter rains to recharge our aquifers and cleanse our soils.

**Harvest Date:** September 5<sup>th</sup>

**Maturation:** This wine was matured for 20 months in seasoned and 50% new Ermitage French oak barriques. Never racked until bottled.

**Wine Analysis:** Alcohol 14.1%, pH 3.70, and TA 6.2 g/L.

**Production:** 372 six packs

### *Winemaker Notes...*

**Color:** Opaque purple-violet with a deep dark core.

**Aroma:** Dark spices, sandlewood and fresh leather complimented with wafts of blueberry, licorice, and black tea. Secondary notes of dark plum and thyme come to the fore.

**Palate:** Aggressive, full & expansive with defined grip and plush, young tannins - tightly structured and dense.

There are flavors of red & black fruits, espresso, and dark chocolate with notes of aniseed & wood; combined in an intricate weave of savory and spice.

The persistent length and structure should ensure drinking pleasure over the next 15+ years.

This wine is made in a reductive manner and it will be at its best when decanted or aged.

**Peak Drinking:** Now-2030

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