

NINER

WINE ESTATES

2021

SYRAH

Heart Hill Vineyard, Paso Robles

WINEMAKER

Patrick Muran

CLONE

877, 174, 7

ROOTSTOCK

101-14,1103P

HARVEST DATES

September 20, 2021–October 9, 2021

AVERAGE BRIX

25.9°

AVERAGE YIELD

2.9 Tons/Acre

pH / TA

3.66/6.2 g/L

ALCOHOL

14.9%

VINEYARD

100% Heart Hill Vineyard

BLEND

100% Syrah

COOPERAGE

43% New French Oak

BARREL AGING

22 months

VINEYARD

The 2021 vintage is a benchmark for a dry and cool vintage in Paso Robles. The vintage started with a dry winter and a cool spring, resulting in restrained canopy growth, a slightly lower-than-average fruit set, and small berries. Thankfully, the weather was exceptional the rest of the growing season with moderate temperatures allowing for slow, even ripening and the flexibility to pick at just the right time during harvest. 2021 wines are wonderfully complex and should age gracefully. Crafted from four separate blocks from all around the vineyard, this wine captures the full complexity and depth of our Syrah from Heart Hill. We harvested the grapes for this wine starting on September 20, 2021, and ending on October 9, 2021.

WINEMAKING

We made this wine in small batches and employed a variety of techniques to capture the distinct nuances that emerged from Syrah planted in different parts of the vineyard. Fermentation took place in a combination of French oak vats and stainless steel tanks, with roughly half of the fermentations relying on native yeast to preserve the wine's natural complexity. To further develop depth and structure, 1/3 of the fermentations were whole-cluster. Each lot was aged independently for one year before being blended and matured together for an additional 10 months. We incorporated 43% new French oak from the Bertrange Forest, imparting refined texture and complexity. The result is an elegant, layered wine with rich notes of blackberry, black olive and clove.

