

2018 STAR LANE CABERNET FRANC STAR LANE VINEYARD, HAPPY CANYON OF SANTA BARBARA



ALCOHOL
14.1%

AGED
22 months

OAK
26% New French
100L

HARVESTED
October 2019

BOTTLED
June 2021

CELLAR LIFE
20+ years

Vintage

The second wet winter in the last 3 years was welcome news for Star Lane Vineyard. There has been much work invested in soil health over the last several years, including a continued ramp-up in sustainable vineyard management and farming which has led to Star Lane Vineyard being designated as a Certified California Sustainable vineyard. Indeed, the rains certainly contributed to vine health as well in 2019 and created a synergy with the farming practices. The growing season was the coolest in the last 4 years and created opportunity to produce absolutely classic, vibrant wines from Star Lane Vineyard. We are thrilled with this vintage!

WINEMAKER

When we talk about "classic" vintages in California and particularly in Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara, we mean that nothing caused us to rush and we could employ the patience that this vineyard deserves. A cool Spring meant bud break was delayed, which resulted in an even flowering after the usual Spring winds. We bottled the Cabernet Franc-based wine separately this vintage and release it only to Club members. This is basically the "Left-Bank" expression of Star Lane Vineyard, with Cabernet Franc making up 87% of the blend and the balance being Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot. We're keeping an eye on Cab Franc; excellence in California Cabernet might have a Left and Right Bank expression in this very special vineyard.

NOTES

TASTING NOTES

Classic Cabernet Franc aromas and flavors of dark fruit, Garrigue, black tea and even a hint of anise, this wine shows classic character of Cabernet Franc without getting too far into the Chinon world. While Cab Franc-based wines can tend to show off the green bell pepper that is an innate in this varietal, Star Lane Vineyard seems to have the advantage of cool climate and California sunshine which means that the fruit and beautiful dried herb aromas dominate without the wine ever leaning toward "green." We love Cab Franc from Happy Canyon and think you will too!

