



**VINEYARD SOURCES:** 100% Watch Hill Vineyard, Los Alamos Valley, Santa Barbara County. Planted in 2002, Watch Hill Vineyard is located in the Los Alamos area about halfway between Santa Maria and Buellton. The microclimate is cooler than Santa Ynez Valley, and slightly warmer than Santa Maria Valley. The low nutrient soils are a mix of sand and clay and are well drained, contributing to the remarkable concentration and balance found in Watch Hill Syrah. The fruit ripens slowly, enjoying extended hang time on the vine in which to fully develop the grapes' aromatic and flavor profile.

**VINTAGE:** Mother Nature set the stage for a challenging vintage with a hard freeze in January and frost in April, causing damage to the buds and green tissue in certain vineyards. Spring and summer brought below average temperatures, which resulted in a long, cool growing season. This, combined with lower crop yields, fostered excellent development of depth and complexity in the fruit. A light rain event in early October was followed by warm, sunny days that gave the grapes the push they needed to reach full maturity. Syrah from the Watch Hill Vineyard was harvested on November 2.

**WINEMAKING:** This Rosé was made using a centuries-old French technique known as a *saignée*, or juice draw, taken when the grapes are crushed. This technique enhances the concentration of the red Syrah wine, while creating a crisp, aromatic Rosé from the *saignée*. Lightly colored from contact with the grape skins, the juice was transferred to older French oak barrels for fermentation. The wine aged in older French oak for six months, which added depth and complexity to the wine without overshadowing the fresh aromatics and flavors found in the fruit.

**TASTING NOTES:** This wine showcases the beautiful fruit expression of cool climate Syrah with fresh aromas of strawberry and cherry with a touch of watermelon and spice. Refreshing natural acidity is balanced by a silky texture.

#### TECHNICAL DATA

T.A.: 6.0 g/l

pH: 3.29

Alcohol: 14.1%

Production: 23 cases