

# Austin Hope

## 2017 SYRAH

### *Vineyard Notes*

The 2017 Austin Hope Syrah was grown on the Hope Family Vineyard, located just 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean in the Templeton Gap region of Paso Robles. The site's rocky soils of clay and limestone make it ideal for the Rhône varieties to which it is planted. Four Syrah clones are planted in separate blocks in the vineyard, all of which are high-density spaced, ranging from 1750 to 2400 plants per acre. The vines are managed carefully to keep cluster counts low, resulting in fruit with great intensity and rich berry flavors.

### *Harvest Notes*

The 2017 vintage began with reasonable weather throughout bloom and set. During the sizing phase, we experienced very warm weather that affected berry growth on many varieties. In mid-September, while harvest slowed due to moderate temperatures, the prolonged ripening period maintained vine balance and higher fruit quality. Overall, the 2017 vintage delivered yields slightly below normal while upholding our desired fruit characteristics and quality.

### *Winemaking Notes*

The 2017 blend is comprised of three Syrah clones – 470 (Garonne, France), 383 (Hermitage, France), Caldwell, and Alban (Côte Rôtie, France). The grapes were hand-picked and fermented separately by vineyard block in five-ton, open-top tanks. After daily pump-overs (for color and tannin extraction) for 10 days, the tanks were tasted as well as tested for their tannins and structure for determination of their length in extended maceration. These wines were held from 30 to 60 days on their skins before being aged separately for 21 months in 70% new and 30% once used French oak barrels and puncheons. The wine was racked once during aging and a second time to create the final blend just prior to bottling in August of 2019.

### *Tasting Notes*

The Austin Hope Syrah is once again a fabulous display of the Hope Family Estates terroir. Its signature aromas of leather and spice are enticingly beautiful. On the palate, hints of mocha, clove and fresh tar create a meatiness that is robust and seductive. This intensely full bodied wine finishes with delicate tannins and a bright acidity surprise.



**VARIETAL(S):** 98% Syrah, 2% Mourvèdre

**AVA:** Paso Robles – Templeton Gap District

**HARVEST DATE:** 9/9, 9/22, and 10/2/2017

**OAK PROGRAM:** 70% New, 30% 1x used French Oak

**TIME IN OAK:** 21 months

**ALCOHOL:** 15 %

**PASO ROBLES DEFINED.**