ARROWSMITH

2022 LA FLECHETTE

Santa Ynez Valley





Vineyard

Grown at our home vineyard, Arrowsmith Ranch, a west facing, sheltered site in the Santa Ynez Valley that we farm for quality, not quantity. Our older Hillside block continued to produce great Cabernet Sauvignon and Merlot fruit as a field blend, and the newer Paddock block, planted in 2020, yielded exceptional Cabernet Sauvignon in more modest amounts. 2022 brought a steady summer with no pronounced heatwaves, giving the grapes an extended time on the vine, and we harvested the fruit ourselves by hand in November.

Grapes

85% Cabernet Sauvignon, 15% Merlot

Winemaking

- Winemaker: Ariki Hill
- Harvested: November 2022 at 21.3ºBx
- Juice at harvest: pH 3.69, TA 4.1 g/L
- Aged in 100% Neutral French oak for 30 months
- Alcohol: 13.6%
- Production: 25 cases
- 100% vegan

Tasting Notes

This is a wine more reminiscent of French Bordeaux in style. The fruit, alcohol and tannins are balanced and elegant, not overpowering, and opening this wine an hour or two before drinking allows the darker fruit notes to come out. The typical dark berry, blackcurrant and cassis notes combine with the background spice and pepper you'd expect from a Cab, without it ever being overwhelmingly dense and weighty. Drink now through 2030, or cellar for 1-2 years to experience this wine at its best.

Serving Suggestions

Open an hour or two ahead and serve with a wild mushroom and chestnut Wellington, or whole roasted aubergine with rosemary, garlic and smoked paprika. For the cheese course, a mature aged Gouda.

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