

2007 Highflyer Centerline

Napa Valley - Red Blend

The image on this wine's label exemplifies the balance of art and science and provides the perfect example of the winemaker's keen interest in proportion or sometimes referred to as the centerline of a wine. Just as Leonardo da Vinci represents in his image of the "Vitruvian Man"

Highflyer

At Highflyer, we work with small, family-owned, benchmark vineyards throughout California where terroir and variety are in perfect alignment. We harvest fruit from the Santa Lucia Highlands, Santa Maria Valley, Sonoma, Santa Barbara and Napa Valley to produce wines that are fruit-forward, thought-provoking, varietally and regionally accurate and delicious. Our name references our winemaker/owner Craig Austin's other great passion in life: aviation. As a private pilot Craig can fly to a distant region, walk the site, meet with the vineyard management team to ensure our strict farming protocols are being followed and still be home in time for dinner.

Vineyards

Centerline is a proprietary red blend of Syrah (45%) Zinfandel (19%) Petit Sirah (15%) Tempranillo (14%) and Grenache (7%). Napa Valley's "Somerston Vineyards" makes up (92%) of the blend while adding a dash of Bennett Valley's "Vivio Vineyard" Syrah (8%) gave us unique spicy backbone to the wine. By combining fruit from these two distinct climates we were able to produce a wine that is remarkably distinctive, complex, balanced and compelling.

Weather

The 2007 growing season a winemakers reverie vintage. A mild start to the season allowed for slow shoot growth and perfect fruit set. Temperature throughout the summer months offered a few heat spikes but nothing we don't normally expect. One more two-day heat spike in early September was followed by perfect weather and an ideal mid-October harvest.

Wine Notes

The Centerline displays sultry aromatics, layered fruit flavors and an uncanny balance. The color is deep, and inviting. The nose explodes with blackberry and blueberry jam, acacia flowers, cocoa, strawberries and espresso. The palate is lush and harmonious.

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