

2007 Highflyer Syrah

Somerston - Clone 383 / Somerston Vineyards / Starlane Vineyards

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, Bennett Valley, Santa Ynez and Napa Valley to produce wines that are thought-provoking, varietally and regionally accurate and delicious. Our name references our winemaker/owner Craig Becker'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.

Vineyard

Somerston (Napa Valley) are due east of Rutherford in the mountains between Lake Hennessy and Lake Berryessa. It is isolated, undiscovered and an extraordinary place for wine. Its cool nights, late morning fog and warm afternoon temperatures offer slow and even ripening. The focus is low yields that produce intensely concentrated berries.

Weather

The 2007 growing season is one of classic character; late Spring rains delayed bud-break and the harvest was approximately two to three weeks later than "average" in getting started. Following a July heat spell, temperatures moderated to provide very even-ripening conditions that persisted through a beautiful Indian summer in October.

Winemaking

Our 2007 Syrah shows tremendous complexity and captures the showiness and opulence of the vintage. It has bold aromatics of sweet red pepper, raspberry and notes of leather. The flavors express briery fruit and ground spice with a refined tannin quality that gives the wine a significant backbone and a long finish.

Highflyer

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BRIX AT HARVEST: 26.6		RS: 0.10 G/100 ML
TA: 6.1 G/LITER	PRODUCTION: 145 CASES	ALCOHOL: 15.8%
APPELLATION: NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA		
Craig Becker - WINEMAKER / PILOT		PH: 3.87

