

White Hawk Vineyard is planted on ancient sand dunes on the south facing slope of Cat Canyon. The vineyard is 21 miles west of the Pacific Ocean and 2 miles north of Los Alamos. It's planted at 900 feet elevation on pure sand that immediately drains off water and nutrients forcing the vines to work extra hard to survive. The upper blocks were planted with Syrah clone 1 on 5c rootstock or clone 6 on 140R rootstock in 1998. Ten foot vine rows are the norm at White Hawk in order to reduce the hazards associated with driving tractors along steep, sandy contours.

White Hawk is custom farmed using sustainable and primarily organic viticulture. The yields are miniscule and the berries are intense! A strong core of acidity is complimented by elements of meat and blackberries.



White Hawk Vineyard just before harvest.
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Santa Barbara AVA / Los Alamos Valley (AVA pending) encompasses three smaller areas: Santa Maria valley; Santa Rita Hills; and the Santa Ynez valley. All of these areas have distinct microclimates and terroirs. There have been movements underway to distinguish sub regions with their own appellation status. Currently, one of these includes the Los Alamos Valley which lies between the Santa Maria and Santa Ynez valleys. It's cool but also warm enough to mature grapes. Although subject to a strong marine influence, the Los Alamos Valley does not necessarily get hotter from west to east. White Hawk vineyard has seen occasional frost and snow!