

# STAR LANE

## VINEYARD

### A CALIFORNIA JEWEL FOR CABERNET-BASED WINES

THE FIRST DECADE OF JIM AND MARY DIERBERG'S California wine adventure was spent searching for the ideal location to plant a vineyard and start a new winery. In 1996, driving upon the former dude and cattle ranch - Star Lane Ranch, Mary Dierberg recalled: "We immediately knew that we wanted this amazing ranch". With wisdom from patience, a 250 year plan, the certainty of passion, and some of the best vineyard consultants in the business, the Dierbergs planted Star Lane Vineyard with Bordeaux varietals, based on their confidence in those grapes' ability to soar in this unique microclimate. The family subsequently added two cool climate vineyards represented by the DIERBERG wines; creating a collection of superb estates within three distinct AVAs of Santa Barbara County's winegrowing region.



#### LOCATION

Star Lane Ranch is located on the eastern edge of the Santa Ynez Valley. By 2009, Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara was federally recognized as its own wine appellation for its unique microclimate and soils. Its special characteristics, combined with demonstrating a strength in growing Bordeaux varietals, make Happy Canyon the new Cabernet frontier in California. The AVA name is rooted to the prohibition era: with its many springs the area is said to have produced a potent elixir, likely a distilled spirit, and legend has it that people would take a trip to "Happy Canyon" to obtain the intoxicating drink.

#### VINEYARD

Planted to 200 acres of Bordelaise varieties, the vineyard differentiates itself from other parts of Santa Barbara County by sustaining warmth. Furthermore, with vineyard elevations ranging from 750 to 1550 feet above sea level, microclimates emerge within the site to produce a beautiful and diverse palette that helps create a distinct range of estate fruit. The Dierberg family's pioneering spirit was quickly rewarded, showing that Cabernet can succeed in Santa Barbara County.

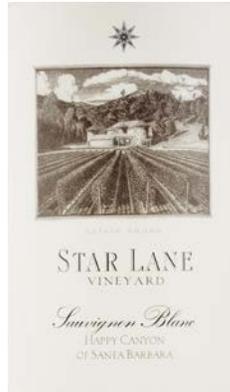
#### PHILOSOPHY

We believe great wines are discovered, not made. We believe it takes great vineyards and great people to make peerless wines. Our goal is to produce compelling, fresh, and deftly crafted wines while maintaining high standards of stewardship, sustainability, and customer service. To do this we work to understand our vineyard variation, discovering the colors within Star Lane so that we can paint a picture that at once represents uncompromised quality and unique site expression. We've learned that Star Lane Vineyard wines are able to sustain one's desire: complex in flavor, full in texture, and firm in structure. These architectural elements manifest themselves within our Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Astral wines.



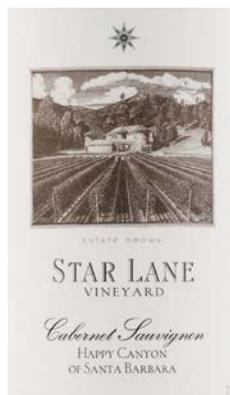
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### SAUVIGNON BLANC

Sauvignon Blanc is planted on the flatlands that occupy the southern end of the Star Lane vineyard, where fog and marine influence is most pronounced. The vines grow in calcareous, rocky soils - a base that stresses the vines into producing rich, tropical flavors alongside refreshing minerality. This offers hints of citrus, passionfruit, and guava. Those flavors are balanced with select cellar techniques intended to pair the powerful aromatic profile with soft, but fresh textures each vintage.



### CABERNET SAUVIGNON

There are very few California Cabernet vineyards with Star Lane Vineyard's combination of warmth, elevation, and soil type. Vaulted mountain peaks offer respite from cool Santa Barbara County fog, and that warmth with free-draining, rocky soils combine to ensure Cabernet of masculinity and supple balance. Each year, you can expect wines with licorice, black cherry, cassis, spice, and vanilla, flavors paired with efforts of selection and fermentation management intended to highlight site driven qualities like structure and depth. These wines age with grace.



### ASTRAL

Astral is a Cabernet Sauvignon-dominated blend featuring only the best barrels from the most remarkable hillside blocks, planted on their own-roots. One of our unique climate/soil features is that we can risk avoiding rootstocks and explore how vines were grown prior to the 20th century: as one uniform species from root to shoot. The result is intense if classic Cabernet notes of cassis, lavender, and floral qualities on a palate with clear California heritage in its rich, structured expression. The exact blend varies from year to year, but the concept is enduring.

