



THE INITIATION

2021 CATTLEYA SYRAH



"Take the first step and be initiated."

THE VINEYARD SITE

The Soberanes Vineyard is located in the Santa Lucia Highlands appellation of Monterey County amid the sandy loam soils boasting significant sub-soil boulders layered into the alluvial fan. Meticulously farmed by the Pisoni & Francioni families, the vines thrive in this cool site among foggy mornings and Pacific winds. You can expect hints of minerality, beautiful acidity while the tannins wrap the mouth-feel with a unique velvet texture. This wine is composed of Alban Clone 1.

THE CRAFT

Each pristine cluster was hand harvested under cover of moonlight on October 18th as this wine began its journey from grape to bottle. A ten day cold soak on 45% whole-cluster fruit preceded an additional 31 day primary fermentation. This wine's impressive color, tannin, and flavor was gently extracted through a combination of daily punch downs and pump overs until alcoholic fermentation was complete. Once dry, the wine was transferred to 42% new French oak barrels, where malolactic fermentation then took place. After 20 long months maturing in barrel, this wine made its final journey into bottle, where it now rests awaiting your initiation into the Santa Lucia Highlands. Bottling of this this unfiltered and unfiltered Syrah took place March 1st of 2023.



THE TASTE

True, deep purple from rim to core in the glass, this Syrah possesses the best characteristics of both old and new world. Upon opening, this wine is tightly wound with savory profile of olive tapenade and fresh herbs that gradually transform into unquestionably profound notes of juicy dark berries, fresh violets, and spicy white pepper. Undertones of scorched earth and roasted meat are soon followed by firm, yet fine-grained tannin and lifted, youthful acidity.

Alc: 14.5% Cases produced: 172 cases (9L equivalent)
- 750 mL. SRP: \$70.

THE MEANING BEHIND THE NAME

Cattleya was born in 2011 with a single barrel of Syrah from the Soberanes Vineyard. It marked the beginning of my journey as the proprietor and winemaker of my own wine label. This site became my initiation—making wine from the variety I worked with so much in France, among the steep hillsides of the famed Côte-Rôtie appellation in the Rhone Valley.