

kunin

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"Seth Kunin's winemaking style offers the elegance and complexity found in top-class French wines, as well as the sweet, ripe, tasty fruit the better California offerings routinely possess" . . . Robert Parker

2007 KUNIN WINES PAPE STAR RHONE BLEND

Central Coast, California

"Chateauf-neuf-du-Pape inspired this delicious blend of 50% Grenache, and 25% each Mourvedre and Syrah. Medium red-ruby, lush and round on the palate, rich cherry and cassis fruit but not overly sweet, wonderful characteristic pepper on the nose, and soft tannins to give it a beautiful, balanced structure. Aged in used, neutral oak barrels, so there is no oak component in this one at all.

Varietal Composition: 50% Grenache, 25% Mourvedre and 25% Syrah

Alcohol: 14,6%

Larner Vineyards – Located in Santa Ynez's Ballard Canyon, Larner Vineyards is a family-run vineyard that produces superior Rhone varietals. We have sourced syrah from Larner for three years, and now have added grenache and mourvedre to create our "Pape Star" rhone-style blend. Although young, Larner Vineyards is quickly gaining a reputation as one of the Valley's premier sites.



Tasting Notes::

Kunin Pape Star is a perennial favorite - this year blending 50% Grenache, 35% Mourvèdre and 15% Syrah aged for 10 months in neutral oak barrels. What you get is a wine that pays homage to Châteauf-neuf-du-Pape with a Central Coast twist. Soaring high-toned cherry and strawberry fruit aromas are kept from completely taking flight with subtle earth, smoke and spice notes. The Pape Star is terrifically balanced on the palate, juggling fruit, earth and spice with the grace of the best performer. Good acidity and barely-there tannins make this wine easy.

Steven Tanzer's *International Wine Cellar*, November/December 2009

"(50% grenache, 35% mourvedre and 15% syrah) Light, vivid red. Musky aromas of red berries, cherry and fresh-turned soil. Juicy, faintly bitter redcurrant and cherry flavors are framed by silky tannins and brightened by a note of blood orange. Very pinot-like in weight and fruit expression, with good finishing cut and repeating bitterness.

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*** FACT SHEET ***

2007 “Pape Star” Rhône blend

VARIETAL(S): 50% grenache / 35% mourvedre / 15% syrah

APPELLATION: 100% Central Coast (Santa Barbara/Paso Robles)

VINEYARD(S): Lerner, Alisos, Paradise Road, Camp Four, French Camp

BRIX AT HARVEST: ~24.6

PH: 3.59

TA: 5.48 g/L

ALCOHOL: 14.6%

COOPERAGE: Neutral oak barrels (> 6 years old). Barrel aged for 10 months.

FERMENTATION: 100% destemmed, with as many whole berries as possible, into 1-ton open top fermentors, punched down by hand 2-3 times per day. Pressed at dryness, settled, then racked to barrel. The yeasts used were commercial strains including BM-45 (Brunello) and D-254 (Rhône).

PRODUCTION: 2400 cases

RECOMMENDED RETAIL: \$25.00

WINEMAKER’S COMMENTS: This wine was inspired by the wines of Chateauneuf-du-Pape. The grenache-based blends from this region are honest yet complex wines that are representative of their origins. They can be consumed young or old and still maintain a sense of elegance. Most basic cuvees there are aged in large barrels, and no new oak is used in their production – all of the casks are neutral. I am trying to create a new-world version of this style, with old-world sensibilities.

TASTING NOTES: Cherries and strawberries on the nose, with some smoke/spice notes. High-toned red fruits and spices on palate, with an underlying earthy note. Bright acidity and light tannins. Finishes cleanly and with finesse.