

STOLPMAN

PARA MARIA

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
2021

80% Syrah / 20% Petit Verdot
2450 cases produced

VINEYARD

Components

Syrah from Ruben Solorzano
Vineyards in Santa Barbara
County, Petite Verdot from
Templeton Gap AVA

Harvest Date
October

WINERY

Vinification

50% of Syrah Whole-cluster
carbonic un-crushed for 9 days,
50% of Syrah de-stemmed,
100% of Petite Verdot
de-stemmed

Vatting/Fermentation
Native fermentation in stainless
steel

Cooperage & Elevation
100% Neutral oak for 9 months

13.5% Alc by Vol

PARTNERSHIP

The Para Maria Brand is a 50-50
partnership between the
Stolpman and Solorzano
families. As managers, Ruben
and Maria opt not to take a cut
of Stolpman's profit sharing
program, La Cuadrilla.

BACKGROUND

Maria "Lupe" Solorzano is shy around visitors and quick to smile. For anyone that sees her in action, it is clear that she leads by the example of her own work ethic. Solely in charge with a quiet, commanding presence, she heads the day-to-day operation at our vineyard, running perhaps the hardest working, most passionate vineyard crew in the world. On a daily basis, she teaches la Cuadrilla new techniques to execute a constant barrage of experiments – often adapting on the fly – figuring out practical ways of farming ridiculously high-density vineyards by hand, or training canopies for ideal shading and wind-flow.

Label Art: The nickname for villagers from Santa Cruz de las Flores, Jalisco; Maria's hometown, is "Tecolote" – or night owl. The name stems from the popular late night parties thrown in the town. Maria and La Cuadrilla also turn nocturnal for three months out of the year to harvest in the cold night air for maximum freshness. A resident female Great Horned Owl is the most prolific rodent-control beast on the vineyard.

VINTAGE

Cool and even, the 2021 delivered supple, seamless wines to most cuvees, and even at one of our most attractive price points, Para Maria exemplifies this vintage profile. Despite a relatively late harvest throughout October, flavor development led sugar accumulation and the 2021 Para Maria red comes in at a deceptively low 13.5% alcohol while maintaining a mouth-filling body.

SENSORY

An inviting nose of lavender over crunchy, dark berries and spice. Exceptionally supple and soft from front to mid-palate. Understated balancing acidity shows itself as a fresh, lively perk on the finish. Medium bodied perfection: always our intent via the low-extraction utilization of 50% un-crushed "carbonic" Syrah.

With time in the glass, unctuous purple undertones develop alongside a vibrant mulberry-strawberry fruit profile which continues to evolve into rhubarb pie topped with cream.

∞ Estate, So Fresh, Combe ∞

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