

JONATA

EL ALMA DE JONATA 2012

BALLARD CANYON, SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

72% cabernet franc, 13% cabernet sauvignon, 9% merlot, 6% petit verdot
80% new French oak, 20% neutral French oak | 341 Cases Produced

RUBEN SOLÓRZANO
Vineyard Manager

MATT DEES
Winemaker

DREW PICKERING
Assistant Winemaker

VINEYARD RUMINATIONS

2012 was one of those rare vintages when both quantity and quality were very high. In a year where Mother Nature gave us a beneficially stacked deck with basically uninterrupted sunshine and warm days, I believe we played our hand perfectly at Jonata.

What appeared to be three tons per acre turned out to be six+ tons at harvest in some other vineyards. At Jonata, we decided early in the growing season to make a move toward continued quality and thus went about a very vigorous yield-thinning followed by an equally aggressive green drop at veraison. The resulting small yields gave us wines that are densely packed with fruit, but also alive with an invigorating tension. Even at an early stage, many of them were already mesmerizing.

ON THE WINE

Perfumed nose of cedar, raspberry jam, dried herbs, dark chocolate, and chicory coffee. On the palate, dark fruit and dark chocolate remain focused and pure. Terrific length, with muscular tannins that slowly take over and lead to a smoky and dark finish. Structured for the cellar, with small tannins that completely cover the front and back palate. This remarkable Alma should reward patience and drink beautifully for years to come.

ACCOLADES

96 POINTS Jeb Dunnuck *The Wine Advocate* #220 August 2015

95 POINTS Antonio Galloni's *Vinous* August 2015