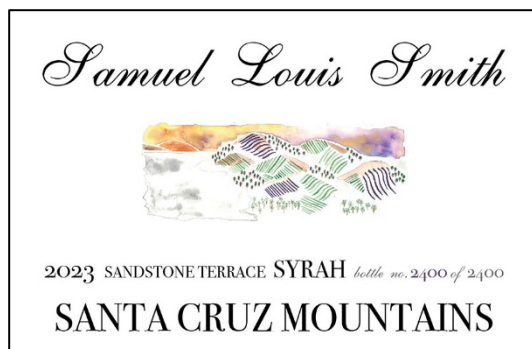


Samuel Louis Smith California Central Coast



Coastal View Vineyard Syrah 2023

The 2023 Syrah Coastview Vineyard is 100% whole cluster-fermented Syrah from a site deep in decomposed granite at high elevation. With only 600 bottles in existence, this is the best of the best from Coastview every year (and this cool-climate vintage gives it even more to love), with Smith using the rest to go into his Sandstone Terrace Syrah, which is equally tremendous. Structured with just a hint of fruit sweetness from the neutral oak, this is a remarkably memorable, lengthy, complex, and crazy good wine, explosive in feral, wild gamey characteristics in addition to bold complements of floral, savory, and even sanguine notes. Good luck not drinking it in one go, but it shows the aging potential to drink another 10-12 years.

99 pts-Virginie Boone, jebdunnuck.com, April 2025

Sandstone Terrace Syrah 2023

A gorgeous cuvée from three cool-climate sites (50% Gail, 40% Nelson, and 10% Coastview), the tiny production 2023 Syrah Sandstone Terrace shows the terroir of what winemaker Sam Smith says is the prevailing soil type in the Santa Cruz Mountains and the inviting nuances of each place, some extremely cool-climate and others surrounded by redwoods. White pepper, garrigue, smoked meat, and iron are all there, expertly layered around a light-bodied frame of persistent freshness and complexity. The grapes were native-fermented 85% whole-cluster before spending 10 months in barrel, 95% of it neutral. The wine is elegant, composed, fruity, and gamey, as luxuriously inviting as blue velvet

98 pts-Virginie Boone, jebdunnuck.com, April 2025

Les Granitiers Chardonnay 2023

The 2023 Chardonnay Les Granitiers offers a lovely cross section of Monterey County, hailing predominantly from the Escolle site in the northern Santa Lucia Highlands and the high-elevation Coastview in the Gabilan Mountains. The nose is pure, stony and crunchy, leading to an electric, laser-focused palate with just enough breadth to avoid austerity. It finishes with a breezy clarity and additional alpine notes after time in the glass. I suspect this will develop quite well in the cellar and could use a bit of time to fill out.

92+ pts-Matthew Luczy, The Wine Advocate, October 2024

The following has also reviewed this wine:

91 pts-Antonio Galloni, Vinous Media, August 2024

Escolle Vineyard Gamay Noir 2023

The 2023 Gamay Noir Escolle Vineyard is a highly intriguing wine that melds together the bold fruit of Gamay Noir with a cool microclimate in the Santa Lucia Highlands and a touch of whole clusters from the semi-carbonic maceration. Explosive and bold in the glass, with notable persistence and tons of character, the Gamay Noir is a winner. I especially admire its character and overall poise.

93 pts-Antonio Galloni, Vinous Media, August 2024

The following has also reviewed this wine:

91 pts-Matthew Luczy, The Wine Advocate, October 2024