

STAR LANE

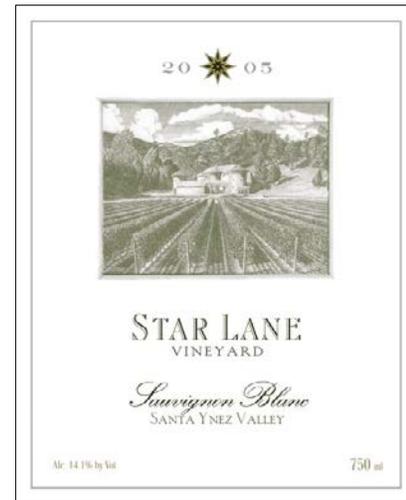
Jim and Mary Dierberg are no newcomers to wine. Since 1974, they've owned one of America's oldest wineries, Hermannhof, located in their home state of Missouri. Developing an initial passion for wine during their early trips to Germany during the 1960s, the couple discovered that an old winery in Hermann, Missouri - founded in 1852 - was for sale, and they bought it.



The wines at Hermannhof are good, but the Missouri climate is not conducive to growing the European varietals that have made France and California famous, and so, it was only a matter of time before the couple sought a new winemaking perspective. In 1996, they purchased Star Lane. After consultation with renowned Central Coast grower Dale Hampton and soil scientist Paul Skinner, the Dierbergs realized that the land was best suited to growing Cabernet and its related varietals.

Starting with 100 acres in 1996, they later bought a cooler vineyard site better suited to Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, a bit farther north in Santa Maria. In January of 2004 they added a new property in the Santa Rita Hills, also suitable for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, and called these two vineyards, fittingly, Dierberg. Practicing organic viticulture, the winemaking couple are constructing their dream winery on the Star Lane property. It's dug into the hillside for efficient use of energy and will host some 26,000 square feet of caves for barrel aging.

SAUVIGNON BLANC



Varietal/Blend: 100% Sauvignon Blanc

Farming: practicing organic

Soil: sand and loam

Ave Year Vines Planted: 1994-2004

Harvest Technique: historically early pickings of fully ripe fruit in August

Fermentation: gentle pressing to stainless steel tanks / cold fermentation / portion sent to 1,400 gallon oak casks

Aging: on lees till April bottling (8 months)

Alcohol: 14.3 %

Yeast: selected

Fined: none

Filtered: light

Star Lane vineyard is located at the far eastern end of the Santa Ynez Valley, in the relatively new "Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara" appellation. The small block of Sauvignon Blanc is planted in the only area where there is marine influence with cooling fog.

Country: United States

Region: California

Sub Region: Happy Canyon AVA

Vineyard: Star Lane Vineyard