

# LIEU DIT

**‘These impeccably made wines have lots of character, represent superb values in most cases and are well worth checking out.’ -Robert Parker**

**Year Founded:** 2011

**Region:** Santa Ynez

**Winemaker:** Justin Willett

**Known for:** Being Lieu-dicious

**Another Cool fact:** Lieu-dit is a French term referring to a specific part of a vineyard or region recognized for its own topographic or historical specificities.

**-Sustainable and Natural-**

We love the idea that the vineyards that grow the best grapes gain enough of a reputation that everyone starts calling them by their name. In our little corner of sunny Santa Barbara, California, we know the best places where the grapes we love are responsibly grown. And that helps us make simple, delicious, honest wine. We focus on three French grape varieties that make classic, food-friendly wines. Sauvignon Blanc, Chenin Blanc, and Cabernet Franc. From these grapes we make wines to enjoy everyday and on special occasions. Justin Willett is a father, husband, winemaker, and proud son of sunny Santa Barbara, California. It takes a native son to know the names of all the region's hidden places where responsibly grown grapes can be made into consciously crafted wine.



## **2023 Sauvignon Blanc, Santa Ynez**

Sourced from three vineyards in the Happy Canyon AVA, at the far eastern reaches of the Santa Ynez Valley: Tyler Winery's monopole, China Blue; McGinley Vineyard (formerly known as Westerly Vineyard, and host to the first plantings of Sauvignon Blanc in the appellation); and the Santa Ynez Vineyard—a 170 acre vineyard - planted to some 30 varieties - on a 1,000 acre conservation easement that will protect the natural beauty and viticultural legacy of this region for generations to come. Chamise shaley loam with serpentine cobbles. Neutral French oak and stainless steel.

**92 Points - Vinous** - *"Fabulous. Bright and nervy to the core, the 2023 is an absolute delight. Lime, crushed rocks, mint, sage and white pepper all race across the palate. This weightless, nervy Sauvignon Blanc from Lieu-Dit is irresistible."*



## 2024 Chenin Blanc, Santa Ynez

Sourced from three top Chenin sites throughout Santa Ynez Valley. Once pressed, the juice is then tank fermented using only native yeast. We then transfer to neutral oak barrels for the winter to help build texture and structure while maintaining freshness. The wine is then racked back to a stainless tank prior to bottling in the spring resulting in a fresh, mouthwatering wine.

**91 Points - '23 Robert Parker** – *“Displays the radiant, focused nature of the vintage, leading with an incisive nose of lemon curd and crushed stones bolstered by exotic, waxy and floral accents. The palate is similarly spry and tensile yet displays a lovely creamy breadth that supports the bright, airy finish.”*



## 2023 Cabernet Franc, Santa Ynez

**‘Top 100 Wines’ -Wine Enthusiast 2021**

Sourced from two blocks in the Happy Canyon Vineyard - in the easternmost sub-appellation of the Santa Ynez Valley - from Rock Hollow Vineyard, just west of Los Olivos; and Justin Willett's monopole in Happy Canyon, China Blue. The wine is fermented using native yeast and partial whole clusters. Once dry, we rack the wine to tank before transferring to neutral oak barrels for the winter.

**93 Points – '23 Vinous** – *“Aromatic, bright and nicely lifted. Crushed red berry fruit, mint, white pepper and dried herbs open beautifully, giving the 2023 gorgeous aromatic presence and breadth. The purity of the fruit is front and center.”*

**92 Points – '19 Vinous** – *“An incredibly fun and delicious wine. A burst of sweet red cherry, rose petal, mint, sage and lavender race across the palate as this boisterous, juicy wine shows off its generous fruit and alluring personality.”*



## 2023 Cabernet Sauvignon

We've begun our second decade of exploring this remarkable region by adding a new lens through which to view it. Cabernet Sauvignon - regal and refined - shares anew what we've always known: Santa Barbara is singular in its balance of power and elegance. Perhaps California's most recognized grape variety, Cabernet Sauvignon wasn't added to our collection on a whim. After a decade's lessons in the vineyards of Santa Ynez, we knew that Cabernet Sauvignon was essential to telling the full story of our home. When approached considerably in both the vineyard and the cellar, Cabernet is uniquely poised to speak of the patient development of power and subtlety afforded to us by the region's union of ocean wind and unbridled sunlight. Destemmed to open-top stainless tanks for native fermentation; macerated for two-and-a-half weeks and managed with pumpovers. Pressed down to French barriques (approximately 10% of which were new); racked once after malolactic fermentation and again to tank for bottling. Unfined, lightly filtered.

**93 Points – Vinous** – *“Marries old-school varietal signatures with midweight texture and fruit-forward approachability. Rich blackberry, dark chocolate, grilled herbs and sweet pipe tobacco flesh out in the glass. Generous but not heavy, the 2023 will delight lovers of New World-inflected but classically built wines. Fabulous.”*