

San Luis Obispo, California

Sextant Wines



WHAT TO BUY

'07 "Wheelhouse" Zinfandel, Paso Robles The flagship; cherries, dark chocolate, raspberries, red plums \$20

'07 Chardonnay, Santa Lucia Highlands Citrus, peaches, butterscotch; elegant finish \$27

'07 "Night Watch" Zinfandel-Petite Sirah Blend, Paso Robles Cherries, violets, hint of leather; black currants, ripe plums, raspberries \$49

'07 "Holystone" Zinfandel, Paso Robles Aromas of cherries, black currants, violets; raspberries, pomegranate, young Port \$27

CONTACT

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Tasting Room Open Thurs-Mon 11-5

GETTING THERE

From 101 N take the Prado Rd./Elks Ln. Exit. Turn right. Turn right onto S. Higuera St. Tasting room is on right.

1. RBZ Vineyard is located in the heart of the El Pomar district 2. The new tasting room in downtown San Luis Obispo 3. Owners Craig and Nancy Stoller

WHEN NAVIGATING the Central Coast wine country, savvy tourers set sail for Sextant Wines. "Navigate... Explore... Discover" perfectly describes owner Craig Stoller's philosophy. Those who follow are not disappointed.

After graduating from Cal Poly and learning the family business at Sunridge Nurseries, a well-established company that cultivates grape rootstock, Craig's father literally sent his son a field to navigate his own course. "My dad handed me a stack of wine country maps and customer lists," says Craig. "He told me to go learn the country, go meet the people." The more Craig explored, the more he fell in love with the industry.

In 2002, Craig and his wife, Nancy, found a 112-acre property in Templeton where they began to grow clones developed at UC-Davis and ENTAV selections (a French governmental authority responsible for the selection and preservation of the best French wine grape clones).



Soon they were underway and making their own wine. Their varietals include Viognier, Marsanne, Mourvedre, Roussanne, Pinot Gris, Syrah, and Merlot. But it is Zinfandel that is the flagship wine of the Sextant label.

After a trip overseas to explore the wines of Europe, Craig and Nancy started a second label, 10knots, dedicated to producing the Rhône varietals they found so enticing. In 2005, the couple purchased 25 acres in the Edna Valley. The purchase included Windemere Winery, noted for its award-winning Chardonnay and Pinot Noir, and a small winemaking facility on Higuera Street in San Luis Obispo, which is now their tasting room. A second tasting room is in the works overlooking the Edna Valley.

Last year Craig and Nancy began entering their wines into competitions and are receiving positive reviews. Robert Parker rated the first three Zinfandels he tasted 89, 90, and 91. Sextant, 10knots, Windemere—three great reasons to navigate, explore, and discover Sextant Wines. 🌿