



*Huber*

## 2003 ESTATE DORNFELDER Santa Rita Hills

The Huber Vineyard is one of the few places in the United States growing Dornfelder, an interesting grape that not only reflects the Huber's German roots, but also produces an exceptional and unique wine. Originally developed in 1956 in Germany as an early-ripening, dark skinned grape to bolster color and body in German Pinot Noir, this grape thrives at Huber Vineyard and is bottled as a single varietal, vineyard designated wine. The cool climate of Santa Rita Hills combined with a long growing season results in a wine that has the spiciness of a good Syrah with the structure and tannins of a well-made Cabernet Sauvignon along with the jammy qualities of a premium Zinfandel. But there really is no comparison to the delights and surprises that the Huber Dornfelder brings to the palate!

The first thing noticed about the 2003 Dornfelder is the color, which is so dark as to almost be black, but with sapphire and amethyst highlights. The nose will indicate that this is something extraordinary in the glass – there are perfumed floral notes alongside spicebox and dark red plum aromas. The first taste astonishes with blackberry syrup, licorice and a hint of mint, followed by nuances of pomegranates, dark red currents, tar and reminiscence of Blackjack gum. The texture is as smooth as warm honey, and the finish long and lingering with layers of tobacco leaf, dried berry and nicely managed tannins. The 2003 Dornfelder is enjoyable now, but will continue to improve with age.

This vintage of Dornfelder pairs beautifully with wild game such as boar, turkey or elk, and is a pleasure after dinner with a hard cheese. It should definitely be decanted and allowed to open for at least a couple of hours, if not a day before pouring.

Huber Vineyards & Cellar  
Santa Rita Hills • 4892 Hapgood Road • Lompoc CA 93436  
Tel (805) 736-3854 • Fax (805) 736-7814 • Email [info@hubercellars.com](mailto:info@hubercellars.com)  
[www.hubercellars.com](http://www.hubercellars.com)