

### Kunin Wines, “Pape Star” (Rhône blend)

- The best Chateauneuf du Pape-styled wine of the new world
  - Classic GSM blend produced in old-world style
- The quintessential Santa Barbara wine – sunny and drinkable

## The Producer

Kunin Wines is a boutique producer of high quality premium wines from some of the finest vineyards in California’s Central Coast. Their philosophy is simple: when you open a bottle, you can be assured from vineyard to glass, very little has been done to alter the purity of the fruit or its natural terroir. With ten limited quantity wines – some just a few hundred cases in production, Kunin offers an exclusive experience of this sought after region.

Owner and winemaker Seth Kunin developed his passion for great wine while working in the restaurant business. Pursuing his dream to make wine, he apprenticed at Gainey Vineyard, located in the now very popular (thanks to the movie Sideways) Santa Ynez Valley, where he learned the art of winemaking and became intrigued with the area’s terroir. He started Kunin Wines in 1998 with a vision to create handcrafted, terroir-driven, authentic wines from California’s Central Coast.

Kunin focuses on Rhône and other varietals ideally suited to the region, including Syrah, Chenin Blanc, Viognier, Grenache, Mourvedre and Zinfandel. Vineyard sites are carefully selected to suit each varietal, and to support a long, cool growing season needed to cultivate Kunin’s characteristic “old-world” style. Kunin currently sources from famous and sought after estates including Larner in Ballard Canyon (a choice region expected to become a new AVA), Alisos Vineyard in Los Alamos Valley, and Jurassic Park in Santa Ynez Valley.

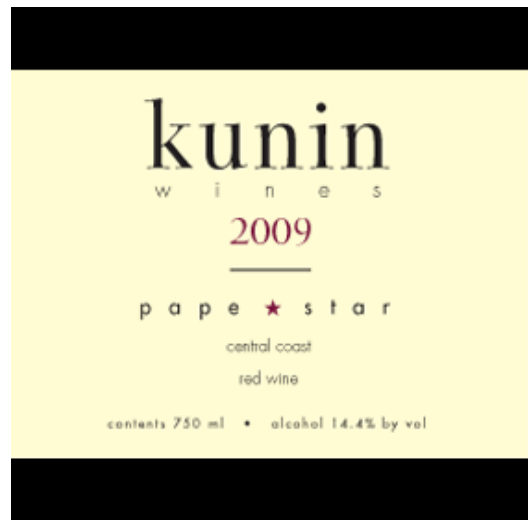
Meticulous farming of great vineyard sites allows Kunin to strike a balance of ripeness and acidity and produce wines of exceptional elegance that will age gracefully and pair well with food. Kunin generally uses oak sparingly, to avoid masking varietal and terroir.

In keeping with their philosophy that wines should be “as nature intended,” Kunin Wines reflect their varietal, terroir and vintage. Variations in temperature from one year to the next are revealed in the vintages, providing an authentic expression of Mother Nature.

While allowing vintages to be uniquely expressed, quality is always paramount, and Kunin lets vintage quality dictate production levels. Annual production is usually around 5,800 cases.

## The Wine

Pape Star is a true-to-type Chateauneuf du Pape, featuring the classic Grenache-Syrah-Mourvedre blend (46% 27% 27% respectively) and old world vinification. Sourced from three renowned vineyards, Pape Star is the new world’s finest Chateauneuf du Pape-styled wine.



**Appellation:** Central Coast

**Vineyards:** Larner, Alisos, Stoller

**Varietal Blend:** 46% Grenache, 27% Syrah, 27% Mourvedre

**Agging:** Neutral oak barrels (>6 years old). Barrel aged for 10 months

**Farming:** Sustainable

**Alcohol:** 14.4 %

**Production:** 1,280 cases

**Tasting Notes:** Cocoa and cherries on the nose, along with a bit of wet earth and spice. Concentrated dark fruit (black cherry, plum) on the palate, as well as a pleasant sense of earth and minerals. Light tannins and a medium finish make this an easy drinking wine for all cuisines and occasions.

**Food pairing:** Grilled burgers, tri-tip steak, cassoulet, rabbit, and semi-hard cheeses.