

# Union Sacré | Cabernet Sauvignon

## “La Confident du Diable” | Central Coast AVA



**Varietal:** 100% Cabernet Sauvignon

**Region:** Central Coast, CA

**Winemaker:** Xavier Arnaudin

**Vines Age:** 18 years avg.

**Production:** 330 cases

**Farming:** Traditional

**Soil:** Clay Loam, Calcareous Limestone

**The Story:** Xavier Arnaudin is a name you will know, and I have to thank Andrew Jones from Field Recordings for introducing me. I told Andrew I wanted to find someone special in California. Someone who was making amazing wines that no one knew about and that I would love, and also a person that would be great to work with. He knew exactly the person I was looking for. As a young man Xavier trained to be a boxer in France and then began to train to work the vineyards and harvest in 1997 with Alain Voge. During this time, he also worked as a sommelier and earned his WSET Diploma. Once he had several harvests and his diploma under his belt, he completed his enology studies and moved to the US. Xavier brings an old- world approach to his vineyard management, cellar, and winemaking. He also brings a willingness to be different and the confidence to let his fruit and his wines speak for themselves. He is making very small amounts of very striking wines. Xavier was making wines, mostly, from Rhone/Burgundy grapes, both here and in France. Tiny Production!!

**Vineyard:** Chelle Mountain Vineyard located in the York Mountain AVA within San Luis Obispo County only 7 miles from the coast. It sits at 1,500 ft. asl facing west with a downward slope known for morning fog and chilly afternoon breezes. Starlane Vineyards is the other site sourced for this wine located within the Happy Canyon AVA of Santa Barbara County which is a warmer site with a range in elevation from 750-1,550 ft. asl.

**Vinification:** Grapes were cold soaked for 7 days with once daily punchdowns and pumpovers. Fermented 4 weeks in 100% new French Oak barrels.

**Ageing:** 16 months on the fine lees, racked once in the fall.

**Everything else you want to know about this wine:** Xavier makes two styles of Cab Sauv: Le Confident, which is an ode to the traditional Cali style and Passion Cab, which is made in the Bordeaux style. For the Passion Cab he uses only the fruit from the top two rows of the cab sauv vines in the Happy Canyon Vineyard.

*Le Storie*  
Wines