

**Lockwood Vineyard****2005 Syrah, Estate
(San Lucas)**

Like all the wines from Lockwood Vineyard, this wine has its roots in the winery's 1,850-acre estate vineyard in the San Lucas AVA, situated in southern Monterey County. (The winery uses the broader Monterey appellation on its labels because it's better known.) The vineyard takes its name from the dominant soil type, Lockwood shaley loam, a calcareous soil found in only

two small areas of Central California. All of Lockwood's wines represent good values, with most of them priced under \$20.

Although the San Lucas AVA is fairly warm, the 2005 vintage was moderate enough to yield a Syrah that exhibits a nice peppery, cool-climate character. In addition to that pepper, the wine displays plenty of bright blackberry fruit, a hint of violets and some substantial tannins. The wine was aged in French oak, and a splash of Cabernet Sauvignon (1.2 percent) was added to the final blend. This Syrah is flavorful enough to drink with a special dinner, but at \$12 it's affordable enough to pair with a pizza, a cheeseburger or simple grilled chicken.

Reviewed October 24, 2007 by [Laurie Daniel](#).

THE WINE

Winery: [Lockwood Vineyard](#)

Vineyard: Estate

Vintage: 2005

Wine: Syrah

Appellation: [San Lucas](#)

Grape: [Syrah / Shiraz](#)

Price: \$12.00

THE REVIEWER**Laurie Daniel**

Laurie Daniel, wine columnist for the *San Jose Mercury News*, has been reviewing wine for more than 10 years. She doesn't use numbers, preferring to describe her recommended wines and let consumers decide for themselves.

Laurie believes that bigger isn't necessarily better; she's partial to wines of balance, finesse and character. Her particular interests are Pinot Noir (versions that really taste like Pinot, that is) and aromatic whites like Sauvignon Blanc, Riesling and Gewürztraminer.