

Jonata 2010  
La Sangre  
de Jonata

*L*UCKED AMONG THE hills of Santa Barbara County's Santa Ynez Valley is a 600-acre laboratory where fascinating oenological experiments are carried out by Matt Dees. An alumnus of the University of Vermont and a veteran of the very different growing conditions of New Zealand and Napa Valley, Dees now presides over the complex winemaking at Jonata. In a region not generally lauded for wines made from Bordeaux varietals, Dees produces a surprisingly stylish Cabernet; and he also defies convention with his Sangiovese, which, though weighty, is balanced by lively acids. His masterpiece, however, is certainly his Syrah. The **Jonata 2010 La Sangre de Jonata** ([www.jonata.com](http://www.jonata.com), \$125) is at once velvety and inky—a gorgeously saturated, epically structured infusion of liqueur-like cassis, black plum, chocolate, anise, and dried sage. —B.A.



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