



WINEMAKER NOTES

The 2020 Syrah/Grenache - Cuvée d'Inspiration bursts out of the glass with blueberries and ripe red raspberries, cherry cordial, and sweet herbs - tarragon, rosemary, and basil. On the palate, this wine is bright and energetic, with soft but mouth-coating tannins and a luxurious finish. A lovely interplay between power and elegance, this wine is both quaffable and intriguing.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	143
Appellation:	Santa Barbara County
Varietal composition:	57% Syrah, 43% Grenache
Vineyard selection:	29% Rancho Boa Vista Syrah, 29% Spear Grenache, 14% Zotovich Syrah, 14% Ampelos Syrah, 14% Ampelos Grenache
Clonal selection:	Alban, 362, Clone 1, Estrella, Alban
% Whole cluster:	75%
Soil at Site:	Chalk/limestone/sand/loam/clay
Barrels Aging:	100% neutral French oak 22 months
Alcohol:	13.5%
Brix:	23.8-24.8
pH at harvest:	3.38-3.64
Finished pH:	3.75
Finished TA:	6.1 g/L
Harvest date:	9/16-10/1 2020
Bottling date:	August 2022
Release date:	Spring 2023

2020 VINTAGE

2020 was a whirlwind harvest in a less-than-normal year. Fruit came in relatively early due to a warm summer, but fruit quality was incredibly high. With decent rainfall, vines were healthy and a warm spring helped usher in a balanced crop. Chardonnay and Pinot began ripening in late August. A bit of heat at the beginning of harvest kicked things off with a bang, but moderate temperatures throughout the fall kept Rhônes on the vine a little longer. The 2020 wines show good flavor concentration and depth, while still retaining their balance and freshness.

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

The wine region of Santa Barbara County is located north of the city of Santa Barbara and includes the Santa Ynez Valley and Santa Maria Valley. A defining feature of the region that makes it ideal for grape growing are the transverse, (east-to-west running) mountain ranges that funnel the marine climate inland. The marine fog and wind have a moderating effect on the vines prolonging the growing season and providing a longer hang time for the fruit.

ACCOLADES

93 points - Wine Enthusiast *Potpourri*, dried cherry and hints of chaparral show on the nose of this blend of 57% Syrah and 43% Grenache. Hefty, firm tannins frame the palate, where the red fruit shows a darker side as rose-petal elements lift the experience. -Matt Kettmann

91 points - Wine & Spirits *Syrah and grenache play in this briary blend, with scents of red plum, smoke and crushed dark berries. The texture hints of whole clusters in the fermentation, with a gentle, almost pinot-like texture and briary tannins. For duck.* —P.J.C.