



WINEMAKER NOTES

This blend from 50/50 Syrah and Grenache blend comes from some of our favorite sites in Santa Barbara County: 30% Ampelos Grenache, 20% Spear Grenache, 20% Ampelos Syrah, 20% Zotovich Syrah, 10% Rancho Boa Vista Syrah. Combining fruit from both Sta. Rita Hills and Ballard Canyon AVAs, this wine has fruit intensity, a silky mouthfeel and the fun aromatic elements you expect from cool-climate Syrah: olive tapenade, chaparral, smoky-savoriness and fresh herbs. The Grenache brings the bright red berries and floral notes, making this wine both extremely pleasurable to drink and intriguing to ponder.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	224
Appellation:	Santa Barbara County
Varietal composition:	50% Syrah, 50% Grenache
Clonal selection:	Estrella, Clone 1, Alban (GR)
% Whole cluster:	75%
Soil at site:	Sand/DE/Loam/Limestone
Barrels Aging:	100% neutral French oak 17 months
Alcohol:	13.7
Brix:	24.0-24.8
pH at harvest:	3.35-3.64
Finished pH:	3.76
Finished TA:	5.9 g/L
Harvest date:	9/16-10/16/2020
Bottling date:	March 2022
Release date:	June 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

94 points - Wine Enthusiast *This county cuvée of 70% Syrah and 30% Grenache is exuberant on the nose with peppered pomegranate, thyme and crumpled bay aromas. The palate is fresh and punchy, but well structured through the finish, showcasing snappy red fruit, fennel pollen and more thyme flavors.* -Matt Kettmann