

Clendenen Family Vineyards



CLENDENEN FAMILY VINEYARDS

Created in 2000, the Clendenen Family brand is a project of passion. There is no doubt quality is here along with the ABC signature of balance, finesse, and longevity. Clendenen Family wines diversity offers something for everyone. The wines are true to their varietal characteristics, are beautifully balanced, and reflect the skill of the winemaking.

2018

90% Syrah / 10% Viognier

From the sustainably farmed fruit of Rancho La Cuna Vineyard, the estate grown Syrah and Viognier are co-fermented, a style that is often seen in the Rhône region of France. The small edition of a white varietal adds complexity while softening the astringency of the Syrah, creating a dense but supple Syrah that is enjoyable immediately.

Rancho La Cuna is located in the Los Alamos Valley, a wine region is positioned between the cooler Santa Maria Valley appellation and warmer Santa Ynez Valley appellation. The wines reflect the best of both regions showing an expressive fruit character, density, and full texture typical of the south (Santa Ynez) combined with the firm structure and finesse from the cooler northern area (Santa Maria). Though the wines are distinctive, Los Alamos Valley is not an official AVA, and the wines are designated Santa Barbara County. The reds are dark, meaty and straight forward.

AT A GLANCE

APPELLATION:
Santa Barbara County

VINEYARD:
Rancho La Cuna

VARIETAL:
90% Syrah, 10% Viognier

COOPERAGE:
3 years, 50% new François
Frères Hungarian oak 500L
puncheons

HARVEST: October 25, 2018

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

ACIDITY: 5.6 g/L

pH: 3.35

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <0

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$35

From The Winemaker

This wine is low alcohol, very aromatic, and classically modeled. No over ripe fruit here. The Syrah and Viognier grapes were co-fermented, a style that is often seen in the Rhône region of France that takes the tannic, muscular Syrah and with the 10% addition of Viognier, gives it suppleness. Aging for approximately three years in 50% new 500-liter Hungarian oak puncheons provided additional complexity, subtle oak flavors and excellent integration of all elements. As hot climate, high alcohol shiraz, and brash, over extracted, sweet syrah recede in popularity, this wine is a beacon towards balance, elegance, and varietal integrity.

Tasting Notes

A dark, rich red that offers loads of juicy, soft purple fruit. The Syrah provides gobs of crushed blackberry and Boysenberry fruit backed by savory notes of black pepper, hard spice and earth. The Viognier lifts the nose with floral nuances, while integrating the palate and adding another layer of complexity.

Food Pairings

Match with pork tenderloin with raspberry sauce, rib-eye steak, barbecued spare ribs, or Moroccan tajine.

Au Bon Climat & Clendenen Family Vineyards

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