

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.

and slow-cooked meats.

2020 Petit Verdot



Petit Verdot is principally used in classic red Bordeaux blends. Because of its bold nature, commonly less than 10% is usually added. Since Petit Verdot ripens so much later than the other Bordeaux varieties, it may seem surprising the varietal ripens so well at a cold vineyard like Bien Nacido. A man of vision, Jim Clendenen leased land at Bien Nacido Vineyards in 1994 and planted a vineyard in 2000 which eventually became all Petit Verdot. It is one of the most successful varietals of the Bordeaux family when grown in the Santa Maria Valley creating a densely colored wine with a multitude of flavors. The location creates a wine worthy of its own bottling.

AT A GLANCE

APPELLATION:
Santa Maria Valley

VINEYARD:
Bien Nacido Estate Plantings

VARIETAL:
100% Petit Verdot

COOPERAGE:
3 years, 75% new Taransaud oak barrels

HARVEST: October 13, 2020

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

ACIDITY: 6.5 g/L

pH: 3.55

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <0

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$45

From The Winemaker

The fruit was hand harvested in mid-October. We use a slow fermentation with one week of extended maceration in small open-top tanks to achieve full extraction. The wine undergoes malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels where it is also aged for several years before being fined and bottled unfiltered. The 2020 vintage shows excellent structure with developed, smooth tannins and layered aromatics. Dark fruit and citrus peel notes are complemented by subtle hints of lavender and herbal complexity, creating a balanced and expressive rendition from the small estate planting.

Tasting Notes

The 2020 Petit Verdot opens with aromas of raspberry, dried orange peel, and cola, followed by hints of green tea and tobacco. On the palate, notes of lavender, dark chocolate, and caramel unfold with depth and richness. Smooth, developed tannins and a firm structure give the wine both immediate appeal and excellent potential for aging.

Food Pairings

Pair this wine with hearty dishes such as braised short ribs, grilled lamb, or roasted duck. Its depth and structure also complement mushroom-based dishes

Au Bon Climat & Clendenen Family Vineyards

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