

Clendenen Family Vineyards



2021 Grenache, Rancho La Cuna



Rancho La Cuna is located in the Los Alamos Valley, situated between the cooler Santa Maria Valley appellation and warmer Santa Ynez Valley appellation. The wines from Los Alamos 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). Since it does not have an appellation, the wines are designated Santa Barbara County. But make no mistake, the region has its own distinctive character.

The first vines at Rancho La Cuna were planted in the early 2000s to Pinot Noir, Syrah, and Grenache. The vineyard continues to expand and be upgraded. In 2015 a new section of Grenache was planted. This is the third from a new planting using clone 515 on 1103P rootstock, and we are excited about the results!

AT A GLANCE

APPELLATION:
Santa Ynez Valley

VINEYARD:
Rancho La Cuna

VARIETAL:
100% Grenache

COOPERAGE:
3 years, new Hungarian 500L
oak puncheons

HARVEST: October 29, 2021

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

ACIDITY: 5.8 g/L

pH: 3.39

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <0

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$40

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.

Food Pairings

Pair this structured and savory Grenache with herb-crusted lamb, grilled pork tenderloin, roasted duck, or braised short ribs. Its notes of bramble fruit, dried herbs, pepper, and spice also make it a strong match for mushroom dishes, ratatouille, or aged cheeses.

From The Winemaker

Rancho La Cuna is particularly well suited to Grenache, with generous sun exposure and sandy, well-draining soils that build concentration while maintaining balance. The fruit is hand harvested and fermented 100% whole cluster.

The 2021 vintage was aged for three years in new 500-liter Hungarian oak puncheons, allowing the wine's expressive fruit, firm structure, and savory character to integrate while preserving freshness.

Tasting Notes

A favorite among the production staff, this vintage of Grenache shows the tremendous potential of both the grape and the Rancho La Cuna site. The fruit benefits from generous sun exposure and well-draining sandy soils, producing a wine with concentration, structure, and expressive aromatic complexity. Built for both immediate enjoyment and long-term development, this Grenache continues to unfold with layered fruit, spice, and savory depth.

Au Bon Climat & Clendenen Family Vineyards

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