



FIRESTONE

VINEYARD



SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

2021 | Reserve Syrah

Founded in 1972, Firestone was the first major estate winery to sink roots in Santa Barbara County. The winery's proximity to the Pacific Ocean, a mere 26 miles to the west, ensures a relatively mild and arid climate throughout the year. The moderate weather and complex, rocky soils make this a perfect setting for our Bordeaux, Rhône and Burgundian varieties.

VINEYARDS The grapes for this wine come from two vineyard blocks on our estate in Santa Ynez Valley. Situated at 1,000-foot elevation on a plateau, this vineyard is comprised of gravely, sandy loam soil from sedimentary oceanic rocks containing limestone and shale, ideal soil for growing our Syrah because of its permeable qualities. During the growing season, the fog sits right on top of our vineyards, creating desirable, cool foggy morning weather, with diurnal temperature swings of 50 degrees.

VINTAGE 2021 had a minimal amount of rain during the winter, continuing Santa Barbara County's drought. Early bud break and mild spring weather continued into a cool summer. A short heat spike in early August lasted about a week before the mild weather pattern resumed, allowing us to pick each block at the optimum time. Our first pick was September 3rd, the earliest in the last 5 years. Harvest was completed November 3rd.

WINEMAKER NOTES Our 2021 Syrah opens with aromas of blackberries and violet candy. On the palate, it has silky-smooth tannin with mouthwatering notes of chocolate covered blackberries, faint notes of black pepper, and rich blueberry fruit compote with caramel chocolate on the finish. Its balanced acidity and lush tannins make this the ideal accompaniment to tri-tip, bison burgers, or tomato-based sauces such as Bolognese.

APPELLATION Santa Ynez Valley

COMPOSITION 100% Syrah

ALCOHOL 13.8% | **TA** 5.9 g/L | **pH** 3.7

AGING 18 months in French oak and Hungarian oak, 25% new

PRODUCTION 221 cases

