



# FIRESTONE

VINEYARD



SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

## 2020 | Malbec

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, making it an ideal setting for our estate vineyards planted to Bordeaux, Rhône and Burgundian varieties.

**VINEYARDS** The grapes for this wine come from a vineyard on our estate in Santa Ynez Valley. Situated at 1,000-foot elevation, this hillside vineyard is comprised of rocky, sandy, alluvial soil on the edge of a plateau, ideal soil for growing our Malbec 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** 2020 had a minimal amount of rain during the winter pushing Santa Barbara County back into drought conditions. We had an average bud break starting in March and a mild spring. Summer brought relatively mild temperatures with an extreme heat spike in late August with our vineyard weather stations recording 118 degrees! Our first pick was September 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was another short heat spike in mid September which lasted about one week, then back to consistent mild weather again, allowing us to pick each block at the optimum time. The Firestone vineyard was completely picked by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**WINEMAKER NOTES** The 2020 Malbec is lush and juicy. Opening with aromas of boysenberry cobbler and a nuance of confectionery vanilla bean, that lead to red and black fruit on the palate. Pops of pomegranate acidity make this wine an ideal pairing for Thanksgiving dinner.

**APELLATION** Santa Ynez Valley

**COMPOSITION** 100% Malbec

**ALCOHOL** 14.4% | **TA** 5.98 g/L | **pH** 3.75

**AGING** 17 months in French and American oak | 10% new

**PRODUCTION** 450 cases



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