

## FIRESTONE



## SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

## 2021 | Petit Verdot

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 vineyard is comprised of gravely, sandy loam from sedimentary oceanic rocks containing limestone and shale, ideal soil for growing our Petit Verdot 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 8th, the earliest in the last 5 years. Harvest was completed October 28th.

WINEMAKER NOTES Petit Verdot has a reputation for its deep color and concentrated flavors and this wine is a testament to the varietal. Aromas of ripe black plum with hints of pencil shavings and pepper lead to a silky palate with bold tannin, dark fruit, and accents of cocoa, and smoky tobacco leaves. This is the perfect wine to enjoy with smoked meats or cheese, aged Gruyere, or a fine cigar.

APPELLATION Santa Ynez Valley COMPOSITION 100% Petit Verdot ALCOHOL 14.5% | TA 6.57 g/L | pH 3.73 AGING 17 months in French and American oak PRODUCTION 1.000 cases

