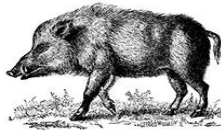


BARDEN



Sta. Rita Hills

2021 Barden Blanc de Blancs – Non Dosage

BARDEN focuses exclusively on the terroir of the Sta. Rita Hills sourcing fruit from top vineyards in the appellation, showcasing the region's classic typicity for Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, and Syrah. With its diverse, marine-based soils and refrigerated-sunlight climate, the Sta. Rita Hills provides a perfect place for Doug "Barden" Margerum to leverage his years of food and wine experience to make limited amounts of world-class, cuisine-friendly and age-worthy wines. The BARDEN name's English meaning is "Lives near the boar's den..." Thus, the image of a wild boar, which is pervasive in our area's vineyards.

Vineyard Region: Sta. Rita Hills – 97% La Rinconada Vineyard clone 15 and 3% Clos Pepe Vineyard Wente clone

Vintage Conditions: Santa Barbara County had a cool spring and mild summer temperatures that extended the growing season. Harvest began in the fall allowing for increased flavors due to hang time. The weather was mild, and we had a long timeframe in which to carefully pick for optimal flavors. Yields were slightly above average but the weather cooperated permitting us to have pronounced flavors and aromatics. We are very happy with the quality of the wine and the "numbers" (pH, TA, Alc.) are perfect resulting in very balanced wines and one of the best vintages in the last twenty years.

Winemaking: Picked for opulent flavors at a lower sugar level, the primary and secondary fermentation was done entirely in barrel with full malolactic fermentation for one year. We then blended the base wine for an additional fermentation in bottle.

Maturation: Aged 10 months sur lie in 10% new French oak barriques and 90% in neutral barriques. The wine was then aged an additional two years "en tirage" creating the defining bubbles. Disgorged and bottled sans dosage - without dosage. Which quite literally means no added sugar, wine, or liqueur.

Wine Analysis: Alcohol 11.8% pH 3.14, and TA 9.5 g/L.

Production: 214 cases produced

Winemaker Notes:

Color: Vibrant white gold, beautiful mousse and small, tight bead bubbles.

Aroma: Lemon, fresh baked brioche, hints of saline, citrus blossoms, white cherries and chalk.

Palate: Fresh, vibrant, energetic combined with smooth and creamy texture from the mousse. Salivating and delicious, with dessert lemons and hints of vanilla bean and caramel.

Peak Drinking: Now and up to twenty plus years.