

2019 SANTA BARBARA COUNTY ROSÉ

Appellation Santa Barbara County

T.A. 6.9 g/l pH 3.27 Alcohol 13.6% Production 54 cases

VINEYARDS

John Sebastiano, Rio Vista, Rancho La Viña (Sta. Rita Hills) \$
Watch Hill (Los Alamos Valley) \$

BLEND

71% Pinot Noir, 29% Syrah

VINTAGE

The 2019 vintage enjoyed a long, cool growing season, which resulted in bright aromatics, complex flavors and well-balanced natural acidity in the grapes. Pleasant late summer weather kicked off the harvest season, and we picked all our Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir in a 13-day window from September 12-25. A cool-down in October slowed the development of our late-ripening Syrah at Watch Hill Vineyard, which was harvested on October 25. Overall, grapes were ideally ripened with pure fruit expression and rich concentration.

WINEMAKING

This Rosé was made using a *saignée*, or juice draw, taken immediately upon crushing the grape clusters into the fermenter. The brief contact with the red grape skins renders its beautiful pale color. The juice was fermented in stainless steel barrels, then aged on its lees for five months, adding depth and complexity to the wine without overshadowing the fresh fruit components. The wine was bottled on March 4, 2020.

TASTING NOTES

Crisp and refreshing, this wine offers aromas of white peach, ripe nectarine and wild strawberry with accents of crème fraîche and flint. The aromatics are echoed in the flavors with notes of papaya, orange zest and a touch of creaminess. The luscious fruit flavors are enhanced by the wine's lively acidity and a crisp, delicious finish.