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## 2018 Red Blend

ESTATE GROWN – SANTA YNEZ VALLEY

The 2018 Red Blend is a special cuvée that showcases the synergy between Syrah (80%) and Grenache (20%) grown at the Brick Barn estate. The Syrah component sets the pace with a cool-climate, Northern Rhône-style character, while the Grenache layers in brightness and aromatic lift.

### ESTATE VINEYARD

The 35-acre Brick Barn estate vineyard lies just north of the Santa Ynez River in a largely unexplored winegrowing corridor near the city of Buellton in the western Santa Ynez Valley. This wine represents a barrel selection featuring three Grenache clones and two Syrah clones, all planted to individual blocks along an upper highland at an elevation of 550 feet. Here, rocky loam and limestone soils provide ideal conditions for classic Rhône varieties. Persistent sun exposure ensures ripe flavors, while the Pacific Ocean—just 10 miles away—delivers daily cooling that maintains fruit acidity and structure. These conditions combine to create a unique growing environment that speaks through our wines.

### WINEMAKING

The Syrah and Grenache lots were separately fermented in small open-top bins, with two punchdowns and one pumpover performed daily for balanced extraction and aeration. After gentle pressing, the lots were settled and racked to French oak barrels, where they aged for 22 months. At the conclusion of aging, Winemaker Adrian Bolshoi identified standout barrels; conducted several blending trials; and ultimately settled upon a Syrah-dominant blend with a notable complement of Grenache.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2018 Red Blend offers earthy, brambly aromas of dark blue fruits with suggestions of Bing cherry and graham cracker. Sleek flavors of black fruits and savory spices are imbued with high notes of cherry and raspberry. Fine acidity and chalky tannins bring length to a juicy finish.

### FOOD PAIRINGS

The 2018 Red Blend is an excellent match for savory dishes, including rack of lamb with rosemary, sirloin medallions with mushrooms, and oven-roasted eggplant.

### VINEYARD

Block 15, 16, 17 (Grenache); 8, 14 (Syrah)

### CLONES

513, 362 & 136 (Grenache); 1 & 470 (Syrah)

### VARIETAL COMPOSITION

80% Syrah, 20% Grenache

pH 3.60

TA .62

ALC 14.2%

SRP \$52

AGING REGIMEN 22 months in French oak barrels (20% new oak)