

Beckmen Vineyards Cuvee Le Bec Red Blend Santa Ynez Valley California 2021

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein, Master Sommelier Madeline Triffon, and Master Sommelier Tim Gaiser



Final Deductions

VINTAGE 2021
GRAPE Syrah/Blend
GEOGRAPHY Not Europe
COUNTRY USA
LARGER REGION California
SMALLER REGION Central Coast
SUB REGION Santa Ynez Valley

Rationale

The most important grape of France's Northern Rhône Valley and the red variety that drives the wine industry of Australia, where it is known as "Shiraz," Syrah is one of the most talked-about and widely enjoyed of all red wines globally. The synergy between a growing demand for red Rhône-style wines and ongoing excitement from producers is spurring production of excellent wines in the Golden State as well. No longer the domain of the cognoscenti, Syrah and Syrah-based wines are becoming ever more popular at home and in restaurants. Is this because it quenches a thirst for big red wines? Or because of the accessibility of its natural bold flavors? Or because it blends easily with related Mediterranean grapes and plays so well with them in Southern Rhone blends?

Southern Rhône Red Blend refers to a wide range of grape varieties often blended together to make wines in the southern reaches of the Rhône Valley in the south of France. While the blend could theoretically consist of any of a wide range of grape varieties, it is usually made up of Grenache, Syrah and Mourvèdre, in varying proportions, typically with Grenache and Syrah as the dominant partners.

Beckmen Vineyards began after Tom and Judy Beckmen left their innovative electronic music company Roland Corp. With youngest son Steve as Winemaker, and oldest son Jeff joining as Director of Sales, their wines are crafted almost exclusively from our two vineyards, the Thomas and Judith Beckmen Estate Vineyard in Los Olivos District AVA and Purisima Mountain Vineyard in Ballard Canyon AVA.

Sight

BRIGHTNESS Day Bright
CLARITY Clear
COLOR DEPTH Medium
COLOR Ruby
RIM VARIATION Purple
Stained Tears: Low

Structure

RESIDUAL SUGAR Dry
ACID Med+
ALCOHOL High
TANNIN Med+
TEXTURE Round / Smooth
FINISH Long
COMPLEXITY High

Aroma & Taste

RED FRUIT Red Plum • Red Raspberry • Red / Sour Cherry • Strawberry *Condition: Ripe, Jammy / Baked*
BLACK FRUIT Black Raspberry • Black Cherry • Blackberry • Black Plum • Black Fig
Condition: Ripe, Jammy / Baked
FLORAL Lavender • Violet *Condition: Fresh*
GREEN VEGETABLE Dark Leafy Greens
OTHER VEGETABLE Fennel / Anise • Olive (Black) • Cola Nut • Beet Root
HERBAL Tea Leaf / Bergamot • Marjoram • Garrique / Provence • Oregano
OTHER SPICES Black Pepper • Licorice (Black) • Green Peppercorn • Sarsaparilla • Licorice (Red)
ORGANIC EARTH Forest Floor • Turned Dirt / Clay
INORGANIC EARTH Mineral / Rock
ANIMAL Meat
OAK AGING Yes *Oak Intensity: Medium*
OAK INFLUENCE Cinnamon • Clove • Coffee / Bean • Star Anise
OXIDATION/NUTTINESS Almond / Marzipan • Pistachio
PERCEIVED WINEMAKING CHOICES Partial Whole Cluster • Added / Stem Inclusion