



ampelos cellars



2020 viognier - santa barbara county

harvest

- our goal with the viognier is to pick grapes when the flavors are bright and focused with notes of stone fruit, pear and pineapple – it takes a little extra hang time to get there but we have learned that viognier ultimately will – without getting too sugar ripe.
- 2020 harvest was a little earlier than the previous years but with good yields
- the grapes are mostly from martian vineyard supplemented with a little estate fruit and were all picked sept 9. In general 2020 was a great year in the vineyards and the grapes were allowed to slowly ripen
- both vineyards are organic and biodynamic certified

wine making style

- the wine making goal for the viognier is to retain the flavors of the freshly picked fruit and not to mask it with oak or any other distractions – all natural winemaking
- we cold fermented based on native yeast at around 50 degrees for a month to retain these fruit flavors – the volatile esters that can disappear with warmer fermentations
- the wine does not go through the second (malolactic) fermentation – that way we keep the minerality as well as the crispness of the fruit in the wine
- to reduce our energy use we have replaced the electricity hungry, traditional cold stabilization with a product based on manoproteins – the results are amazing and we feel even more “green” by doing so.

character

- nose is bright, juicy, vibrant, lively, even rich.
- pops of honeysuckle, peach pie, apricot and lime sorbet with a nice coating of the mouth
- filling the palate with boss pear, more stone fruit and slate gravel
- finish is big and long with bright acidity and lingering, refreshing fruit flavors

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| appellation | santa barbara county |
| composition | 100% viognier |
| vineyard source | martian (91%) and estate (9%) |
| alcohol | 13.9% |
| pH/acid | 3.71/6.1g |
| barrel aging | none – all stainless steel |

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