



XANDER SOREN WINES



2021 SANFORD & BENEDICT VINEYARD PINOT NOIR Sta Rita Hills (Central Coast)

Famous for establishing pinot noir in the Santa Ynez valley, Sanford & Benedict was first planted in 1971 and has been revered for decades as an iconic, cool climate vineyard that produces delicious food-friendly wines. The strong ocean influence creates rich sea spray and umami flavors, while the terroir and unique soils provide complex minerality.

Tasting Notes

Offers an expressive nose of cherry skin, muddled raspberry, and black plum, layered with notes of violet, licorice, sweet thyme, and warm baking spice. The palate is dense and polished, with ripe red and dark fruit balanced by vibrant acidity and supple, silky tannins. Accents of vanilla bean, Chinese five-spice, and a touch of freshly ground espresso add depth to a long, resonant finish.

Pairings

At home alongside classic pinot noir dishes like mushroom, pork and duck, while its ocean influence makes it an ideal pairing for a variety of seafood, from sushi to grilled and marinated fish.

Release

March 2026
55 cases produced
\$125 (750ml) / \$250 (1.5L)

Winemaker - Shalini Sekhar

Our minimal intervention winemaking process begins with meticulous hand-sorting of the fruit. The grapes are destemmed into whole berries and each clone is separated into individual vessels for native fermentation, receiving one to two punchdowns per day. After 18 days on the skins, the free run is drained and the remaining pomace lightly pressed to barrel separately. The wine then undergoes native MLF and is racked once just prior to bottling.

ABV 13.5%
pH 3.4
TA 5.8

Bottled unfinned and unfiltered with minimal effective SO₂

Barrel Aging

17 months in French Oak
20% New
20% Once used
60% Two+ Year

Cooperages

Billon Select, Francois Freres

Vineyard Notes

SANFORD & BENEDICT STA. RITA HILLS

Planted

1971

Clones

AS-1 (Archery Summit)
943 (French Selection)
Martini

Elevations

395'

Soils

Botella clay loam on fractured shale and chert

Row Spacing

12x6' and 6x6'



All our vineyard partners practice Certified Sustainable farming