



# 2021 RIESLING KICK ON RANCH

## SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

### TASTING NOTE

Kick On Ranch gives a piercing expression of Riesling, one that's striking in the way it blurs your sense of the familiar and the exotic. In this 2021 bottling you have this cool, stony kind of earthiness mingling with heady fragrances that make you think of drinking some cocktail in the shade of tropical beach palms—white tea, citrus peels and lemongrass at first, followed by a plethora of exotic flowers like ginger blossom and plumeria. There's a penetrating zesty greenery throughout, with flavors of lime and soursop, but also softer golden hued layers of loquat and juicy pluots. The mineral crackle in the finish rounds out this altogether refreshing and engaging wine. As fun as this wine is in its youth, this wine ages gracefully into a more mineral regality, keeping all its exotic flair in an ethereal way.

### VINTAGE & WINEMAKING

Fog is a major component of classic Santa Barbara County vintages, but it was more persistent than usual in 2021, and downright milky at times. That actually led to a lot of botrytis mold in the Riesling at Kick On Ranch; we picked that separately and made an outstanding sweet wine from it. We picked the grapes for this dry Riesling the following day (after the botrytis was sorted out). Half of the grapes for this wine were immediately whole-cluster pressed and settled overnight. The other half was destemmed and left on its skins overnight, then pressed. Everything fermented with native yeast in neutral French oak barrels, and once the wine was fully dry we added just enough sulfur to prevent malolactic fermentation. After 8 months aging on its lees, the wine was racked and bottled in June.

### VINEYARD

Kick On Ranch is a few miles West of Los Alamos, halfway toward Vandenberg Air Force Base. The site is planted on rolling sand dunes and swales just a few miles from the Pacific. This place is right in the middle of the narrow East-West valley, making for a corridor that pinches the cool westerly winds through here, so it's one windy and often foggy environment. Riesling ripens especially gradually in this terroir. These grapes are the last white fruit we harvest, and they come in with terrific acidity and thick snappy skins with loads of phenolic development.

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**BLEND** 100% Riesling

**VINEYARDS** Kick On Ranch

**AVA** Santa Barbara County

**ALCOHOL** 13.0%

**VINIFICATION** barrel fermented, aged on lees with blocked ML

**BARREL AGING** 8 months

**TOTAL PRODUCTION** 195 Cases

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