

BRANDER VINEYARDS

Sauvignon Blanc 2021

Los Olivos District AVA, Santa Ynez Valley, California

ESTATE

Brander Vineyard is one of Santa Barbara County's legacy wineries, and founder Fred Brander is rightly considered a pioneer in the region. After completing studies at UC Davis, he interned with David Stare at Dry Creek Vineyard, and in 1975 planted a 40-acre vineyard just outside Los Olivos. Fred's interest in France's Bordeaux region led him to specialize in Sauvignon Blanc and Cabernet Sauvignon, and his early success showed the potential for these varieties in the warmer regions of the county. His firm belief in the uniqueness of his vineyard's microclimate led him to pursue an AVA specific to the area, and in 2016 the Los Olivos District was approved. Brander produces Cabernet Sauvignon and a range of stylistic Sauvignon Blanc bottlings, including single-vineyard wines. His Sauvignon Blancs are widely considered California benchmarks for the variety.

WINE

This is the wine that made Brander Vineyards - a trendsetting Sauvignon Blanc that came to define a region. Made with a majority of estate fruit, the clean and crisp style that's beloved by so many was crafted by large diurnal shifts and unfussy stainless-steel aging. The results have been consistently lauded since their first vintage in 1977, with the label quickly becoming synonymous with both Brander and the Los Olivos District.

VINEYARD

Most of the grapes come from Brander's Estate vineyard in the Los Olivos District. High diurnal shifts in the area allow sufficient ripening during the day while preserving acidity at night. Brander also purchases fruit from neighboring vineyards, including Mesa Verde, La Presa, and Kick-On

WINEMAKING

Harvest: Manual, beginning in early September

Variety: 97% Sauvignon Blanc, with small amounts of Pinot Gris, Semillon, Riesling, and Muscat

Fermentation: Destemmed, into stainless steel with 30-60 minutes of skin contact.

Aging: Aged predominantly in stainless steel, with a small amount in neutral French oak for texture (about 5%)

Alcohol: 13.5%

VINTAGE

A high-quality vintage, with a long and cool growing season creating a chiseled and precise product.



WINE ENTHUSIAST

92

"Crisp and stony aromas of crushed granite meet with grass on the nose, while the palate offers wet cement, lime-peel and freshly mowed lawn flavors." - MATT KETTMAN, 7/1/2022