

I BRAND & FAMILY ARNEIS, 'VISTA VERDE VINEYARD' PAICINES, SAN BENITO COUNTY



100% Arneis, a white Italian wine grape variety originating from Piedmont, and another atypical varietal that Ian likes to work with. Jasmine flower and lilac on the nose with a touch of funky earthiness. Dried apricot and quince lead the attack on the palate. Medium to full body, finishes with notes of bergamot. Texturally and aromatically reminiscent of the Roero, with the patina of clean California sunshine. Delicious.

Vista Verde is planted on the bench lands and hills east of the Tres Pines Creek bed, San Benito County, California. The small, west facing block of Arneis is grown at about 800 ft elevation in gravelly soils with calcareous fractures. Warm, sunny days and cool nights. Vista Verde is a certified sustainable vineyard. The grapes are left whole cluster and lightly pressed into tank and cold settled. Barrel fermented with naturally occurring yeasts. Malolactic fermentation is arrested when the flavors and textures were just right. The wine then aged on the lees without stirring for 6 months. Sterile filtered.

Ian Brand puts a lot of miles on his car exploring & discovering great vineyards at the edge of sensible farming in Central California. He finds the remote, challenging vineyards, that are capable of producing only the most idiosyncratic wines, with hard depleted soils & intense sunlight tempered only by the coastal breeze. His goal is to lightly polish the roughest edges & leave the idiosyncrasy intact. It is there in the back country of Monterey & San Benito county that Ian's wines come to life. The I. Brand & Family wines are small lot, single-vineyard selections that Ian wishes to showcase. "We are not in "wine country" nor do we have trophy wineries. This is farm land, desolate hills & solitude. What we do is simple, without artifice & we enjoy it."

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Tasting Note:

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100% Arneis. Jasmine flower & lilac on the nose with a touch of funky earthiness; dried apricot & quince lead the attack on the palate; medium to full body finishes with notes of bergamot; delicious.

Shelf Talker:

I BRAND & FAMILY VISTA VERDE VINEYARD ARNEIS



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