

# Clendenen Family Vineyards



## 2020 Mondeuse



Mondeuse is an obscure variety that has its roots in the Savoie, the region of France bordering Switzerland. Mondeuse (Noire) creates a delicious juicy red wine with deep color and a berry/peppery flavor. The Clendenen Family Mondeuse is from a special section at Bien Nacido Vineyard planted in the early 1990s at the request of Jim Clendenen. The cool conditions at Bien Nacido delivers grapes with naturally high acid, making the variety typically ideal for rosé or for use as a blending component. However, under the right conditions, it is a worthy standalone wine.

### AT A GLANCE

**APPELLATION:**  
Santa Maria Valley

**VINEYARD:**  
Bien Nacido Estate Plantings

**VARIETAL:**  
100% Mondeuse Noire

**COOPERAGE:**  
4 years in 500L Hungarian oak  
puncheons

**HARVEST:** October 5, 2020

**ALCOHOL:** 13.5%

**ACIDITY:** 6.7 g/L

**pH:** 3.51

**RESIDUAL SUGAR:** <0

**SUGGESTED RETAIL:** \$25

## CLENDENEN FAMILY VINEYARDS

Created in 2000, the Clendenen Family brand is a project of passion. There is no doubt quality is here along with the ABC signature of balance, finesse, and longevity. Clendenen Family wines diversity offers something for everyone. The wines are true to their varietal characteristics, are beautifully balanced, and reflect the skill of the winemaking.

## From The Winemaker

The grapes were hand harvested in the cold early morning hours from our estate plantings at Bien Nacido Vineyard. The fruit was picked at the optimum time for full flavors and depth countering the typically acid and tannin-driven variety. All the grapes were destemmed and fermented in 5-ton open-top fermenters with daily punch downs. The wine was then aged for 4 years in neutral Hungarian oak 500-liter puncheons to harmonize all the elements.

## Tasting Notes

Fragrant violets, fresh lavender, and black tea aromas lead to vibrant flavors of passionfruit, cherry, and red currant. Full-bodied with firm tannins, it unfolds on the palate with notes of dark chocolate, tobacco, and graphite, culminating in a spectacular finish.

## Food Pairings

Match this delicate yet structured wine with grilled spicy Italian sausages, charbroiled burgers, or even hearty stews of any variety.

Au Bon Climat & Clendenen Family Vineyards

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