

GOLD MEDAL WINE CLUB'S
Platinum Series Selection

Platinum Plus!

Refugio Ranch 2009 Barbareño Santa Ynez Valley

Nestled against the northern flank of the Santa Ynez Mountains, Refugio Ranch Vineyard is producing some of the region's newest prestigious wines crafted in the spirit of cowboys and ranch lore. Kevin and Niki Gleason purchased this bucolic piece of property in 2004 and transformed the old cattle ranch into a biodynamically farmed 26-acre vineyard of mostly Rhône-style varietals. Their connection to and celebration of this piece of land has made their family Refugio Ranch Vineyard a particularly special addition to the Santa Ynez family of charming boutique wineries.

With the guidance and expertise of vineyard manager Ruben Solorzano, the Gleasons and winemaker Ryan Deovlet bring a sincere respect for the land to the Refugio Ranch winemaking venture. They honor the land's natural *terrior*, incorporating the varietals that work best in this particular spot while also respecting its health and beauty by farming biodynamically and preserving the landscape they originally fell in love with. It is rare to find a family as deeply connected to the land as the Gleasons, earning them great admiration in the Santa Ynez community.

In 2008, winemaker Ryan Deovlet crafted the inaugural vintage for Refugio Ranch, a red blend entitled *Barbareño*. They have since added a handful of limited production Rhône-style wines, each named to convey the history of Refugio Ranch while celebrating their family's own story as well. Their current overall production is under 3,000 cases per year, a tiny number by any standard, and the wines continue to be recognized and awarded by the wine industry press. Refugio Ranch recently opened a tasting room in downtown Los Olivos where visitors can meet the Gleason family and taste their unique line-up of ranch inspired wines.

Accolades & Tasting Notes

91 POINTS - The Rhône Report

A robust red blend of 65% Syrah and 35% Petite Sirah, the 2009 Barbareño was named for Refugio Ranch's centuries-old history of cowboys and cattle ranching. The Barbareño provides aromatics of wild blackberry, boysenberry, dark cherry, dried currant and sweet spice cake with notes of licorice, clove and vanilla bean. Its dense and powerful structure provides layers of flavor as this fleshy red blend combines its slow-mounting tannins with generous fresh fruit and nuances of dark chocolate and coffee. Aged 18 months in oak. Enjoy now until 2019.

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