

Longoria

ARTISTRY IN WINEMAKING SINCE 1982

Things You Should Know About...

RICK LONGORIA-THE WINEMAKER

Founded in 1982, Longoria Wines was established with the goal of producing artisanal wines from the best vineyards of Santa Barbara County.

During his winemaking career, Rick Longoria has worked with over thirty different local vineyards in his never ending quest to find the “grand cru” caliber vineyards in Santa Barbara County.

A true pioneer, Rick is one of a handful of winemakers that has been making wine in Santa Barbara County over 30 years.

A TRUE FAMILY WINERY

Rick and his wife Diana have dedicated their lives to this company which remains small, family owned, operated and completely dedicated to quality.

Rick remains a hands-on winemaker and business owner. The production which still averages a miniscule 3,500 cases annually after twenty-seven years, has been kept small so that Rick will never outgrow his ability to be completely involved with every stage of the production of his wines. Additionally, Rick’s insistence on fruit of the highest quality has by necessity kept production small.

LOMPOC WINE GHETTO PIONEER

He was the first person to establish a production facility in the city of Lompoc, making him the first resident and founder of the Lompoc Wine Ghetto. The wine Ghetto is now home to some of Santa Barbara County’s finest artisanal wine producers. Besides Longoria, the Ghetto is home to Fiddlehead, Stolpman, Palmina, Flying Goat, and Samsara to name a few.

FE CIEGA-THE ESTATE VINEYARD

Planted in 1998, Fe Ciega is the first vineyard project that Rick was involved with from the ground up.

To create complexity in the wine, a diversity of clones were planted; the stalwart Pommard clone and two Dijon clones, 115 and 667.

The site is located on a south-facing slope above the north side of the Santa Ynez River, about eight miles east of Lompoc. This location is on the western edge of the Santa Rita Hills appellation, giving it one of the coolest climates in the area for grape growing. The site has clay loam soil with fragments of Monterey shale which Rick believes is a prerequisite for the production of dense, multi-layered Pinot Noir.

RICK'S STYLE OF PINOT NOIR

As with all of his wines, Rick seeks to produce Pinot Noirs that exhibit a purity of fruit and distinctive vineyard expression. The style can be briefly described as “balanced, elegant, rich, silky wines, true to varietal and vineyard source that will age well.” The wines often are closer in style to an elegant Burgundy than the typical California Pinot Noir.