

Santa Barbara County, CALIFORNIA



Louis Lucas and Royce Lewellen were friends before they were ever business partners. One of their common interests was their love of Santa Barbara County. Louis had been a successful grape grower for many years, and had the reputation to match, while Royce was a judge and dreamer who imagined what Santa Barbara could be as a wine region. They banded together to create Lucas & Lewellen Wines. Today, Michael Lewellen, Royce's son, is the managing partner, making Lucas & Lewellen a second-generation family-owned winery. The Lucas & Lewellen vineyards have become legendary for lovers of premium wines from Santa Barbara County since 1975.

Santa Barbara's topography is unlike any other wine region. The east-west orientation of the mountain range forms a valley opening directly to the Pacific Ocean. That cool ocean breeze is a hallmark of the Santa Barbara climate, and one that Louis and Royce wanted to highlight in their wines. They acquired the three vineyards that have myriad microclimates, from cool Santa Maria Valley to moderate Los Alamos Valley, known for fresh and vibrant Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, to warmer Santa Ynez Valley, which produces stellar Sauvignon Blanc, Merlot and Cabernet Franc.



Megan McGrath Gates Winemaker

SCORE HIGHLIGHTS

Lucas & Lewellen Cabernet Sauvignon, Valley View 2019 94 Pts. Tasting Panel 90 Pts. Wine Enthusiast

Lucas & Lewellen Pinot Noir, Santa Barbara County

2021 91 Pts. Wine Enthusiast

2018 92 Pts., Best Buy Wine & Spirits 91 Pts. Wine Enthusiast 90 Pts. Wine Spectator

Lucas & Lewellen Chardonnay, Santa Barbara County 2019 90 Pts. Wine & Spirits

Lucas & Lewellen Sauvignon Blanc, Santa Barbara County 2018 90 Pts. Wine Enthusiast

Lucas & Lewellen Rosé, Santa Barbara County

2022 90 Pts. Wine Enthusiast

2021 91 Pts. Wine Enthusiast







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Starting in 1975, what started as a friendship, became a lifelong partnership, converging on the belief in the quality of Santa Barbara. Over the next 30 years, they would acquire over 400 acres of vineyards with the goal of staying true to Santa Barbara's cool climate style. Vineyards like Los Alamos, Goodchild and Valley View would soon become the foundation and backbone to create their coastal quality spanning the micro-climates across Santa Maria Valley, Los Alamos Valley and Santa Ynez Valley.

Santa Barbara County has a history of winemaking and wine grape growing stretching back more than 200 years to before California was a state. From the Mission Era of early California through the Ranchero and Pueblo Era, struggling through Prohibition to the beginning of the modern era of winemaking that started in the 60's. Santa Barbara County is different than any other wine growing region in the world. Here, the east-west orientation of the coastal mountains forms valleys opening directly to the Pacific Ocean. This unique topography allows the flow of fog and ocean breezes to shape distinct micro-climates, perfect for the cultivation of classic grape varietals and world-class wines. The 50 miles stretching from Point Conception to Rincon constitutes the longest east-west traverse of shoreline from Alaska to Cape Horn. The Santa Ynez and San Rafael Mountains form a unique coastal range - the inland ebb and flow of fog and ocean breezes make the region one of the coolest vinicultural areas in California. This means that the fruit has an unusually long "hang time" on the vine, allowing it to fully develop the acids, flavors and tannins needed to produce wines of distinctive character.



Louis Lucas, Royce Lewellen, Mike Lewellen

SCORE HIGHLIGHTS

Lucas & Lewellen Cote del Sol Cabernet2019 91 Pts. Wine Enthusiast2018 91 Pts., Editor's Choice, Wine Enthusiast

Lucas & Lewellen Pinot Noir Goodchild High 9 2019 91 Pts. Wine & Spirits 90 Pts. James Suckling 2018 90 Pts. Wine Enthusiast

Lucas & Lewellen Hidden Asset Red 2020 91 Pts. Wine Enthusiast 2018 90 Pts. Wine Enthusiast



