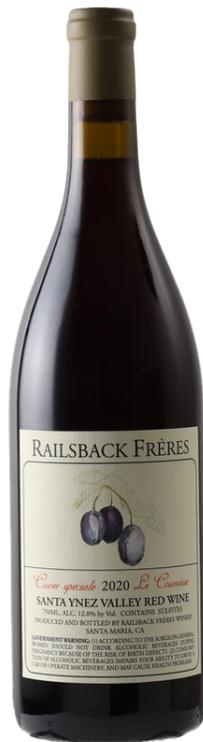


the RAILSBACK FRÈRES

2020 Le Counoise



VARIETY

100% Counoise

PLACE

Santa Ynez Valley, Alisos Canyon AVA

AGING

10 months in neutral
French barriques

PH

3.83

TA

6.2

ALC%

11.7%

The Nolan Ranch is a new vineyard that we're excited to have partnered with, from a steep ridge in the newly-awarded Alisos Canyon AVA in Santa Ynez, with an incredibly diverse terroir that's loaded with limestone and fossils. Of their 105 acres of grapes, a mere 0.88 acres are planted to Counoise cuttings from Beaucastel. Having not worked with this cépage previously we reached out to Daniel Brunier from Vieux Télégraphe and Daniel Ravier from Domaine Tempier for advice. Ravier in turn reached out to Etienne Portalis at Château Pradeaux and Brunier reached out to the Perrins at Château de Beaucastel on

our behalf. Both insisted that Counoise was “the grape of the future” for their southern climates, offering a natural acidity and freshness in a continually warming climate. We fermented in whole bunches and the outcome was better than we could have imagined. The floral aromatics of the Counoise are a perfect marriage for the mineral-rich terroir of Alisos Canyon. This juicy red has the joy and freshness that we love in Cru Beaujolais, the structure and chewiness that we love in the Southern Rhône, and the tightrope elegance that brought us to Santa Ynez.