

## 2021 BARBERA LODI APPELLATION

It's always a great time when we're able to introduce a new vintage of our Barbera. With each passing year we learn a little more about working with the varietal. This is one of the gifts of small lot winemaking, each year is directly reflected in the final product, there aren't big lots of wine to hide behind or bury the wine within, the wine is expressive of the vintage and climate, that's it. In 2021 we had an incredible heat spell early in the season, but as we progressed the days mellowed and a late ripener like Barbera had a more idealistic ripening curve. This meant that the aromatics and tannin were still able to slowly develop in complexity without being over-run by rapidly rising sugars.

Bold jammy aromas of berry pie, plums, and toasted caramel on the nose. On the palate, ripe dark fruits, raspberry and a slight herbaceous undertone balance beautifully with bright acidity, firm tannins, and a long, lingering finish

## 2021 CABERNET FRANC LODI APPELLATION

Being our second release of Cabernet Franc we were able to refine some of our processes from picking through winemaking. This combined with generally a more balanced late ripening season yielded a wine closer to the characters that I had in mind when we started working with it. The fruit ripened evenly across the vineyard with less red berry scattered in the clusters. At the winery we destemmed as usual, but allowed a longer cold soaking period before inoculating. This cooler fermentation period allowed us to retain the gorgeous fruit characters combined with a lovely backbone of tannins, acid and color.

Beautiful aromas of cherry, cranberry, and raspberry blend with hints of sweet pepper jelly and herbaceous notes. On the palate, the bright acid lends itself to flavors of candied red fruits, grippy tannins, and an enticing finish.

## THE GENTLEMAN V8 LODI APPELLATION

If we're in the tasting room and you ask me what my favorite wine is, there will be some hesitation, but I'll always land on The Gentleman. It's just such a balanced and very complex, layered wine. You'll notice that we typically don't vintage date this wine. This allows us to pull wines from older (and often younger) vintages to build a blend of this kind of depth. The varietals also shift slightly from year to year, but almost always circle around my favorite Italian varietals: Sangiovese, Barbera and Nebbiolo. These complex varietals build the backbone and layered structure, allowing me to pull a thread of consistency from blend to blend.

Aromas of dried fruits, fig cookies, and dark cherry blend effortlessly with notes of light oak and a slight minerality. On the palate, flavors of cherry cola, baking spice, and candied notes are balanced by medium tannins and a smooth finish.

## 2021 MALBEC PIRIE VINEYARD

Our very first production from this field was tiny, a couple of barrels. On our topping rounds it quickly became one of our favorite, crazy aromatic wines. Early in its life the fermentation bins are darkly tinted with deep purple hues and heady fermentation aromatics only second to Tempranillo. After pressing and moving the wine to barrels, it goes into a lag phase not a ton of compelling depth. But then sometime in spring, you pull the bung and pow! the wine just pops with overflowing black & blue fruit aromas and the true potential of the varietal begins to show.

Rich aromas of blueberries and mixed berry pie harmoniously blend with notes of baking spices and pie crust. Flavors of dark fruits and vanilla round out the palate with soft yet substantial tannins, balanced acid, and a smooth velvety finish.

### WINE INFORMATION

PRODUCTION: 230 cases

BARREL AGING: 20 months in Medium and Medium Plus French & American Oak

HARVEST BRIX: 25° | PH: 3.8

ALCOHOL: 14.5% | TA: 6.3 g/l

RELEASE DATE: 01/20/24 | R.S.: 3.9 g/l

BLEND: 100% Barbera

ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS:

1 ---+---5---+--- 10

### WINE INFORMATION

PRODUCTION: 214 cases

BARREL AGING: 20 months in Medium & Medium Plus American and French Oak

HARVEST BRIX: 27° | PH: 3.41

ALCOHOL: 15.7% | TA: 6.5 g/l

RELEASE DATE: 01/20/24 | R.S.: 1.2 g/l

BLEND: 100% Cabernet Franc

ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS:

1 ---+---5---+--- 10

### WINE INFORMATION

PRODUCTION: 292 cases

BARREL AGING: 20 months in Medium & Medium Plus American and French Oak

HARVEST BRIX: 24-27° | PH: 3.77

ALCOHOL: 15.8% | TA: 6.2 g/l

RELEASE DATE: 01/20/24 | R.S.: 1.6 g/l

BLEND: 33% Sangiovese, 33% Barbera, 9% Nebbiolo, 17% Montepulciano, 8% Primitivo

ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS:

1 ---+---5---+--- 10

### WINE INFORMATION

PRODUCTION: 231 cases

BARREL AGING: 20 months in Medium & Medium Plus French & American Oak

HARVEST BRIX: 28° | PH: 3.77

ALCOHOL: 15.8% | TA: 6.5 g/l

RELEASE DATE: 1/20/24 | R.S.: 1.1 g/l

BLEND: 100% Malbec

ESTIMATED CELLARING POTENTIAL, YEARS:

1 ---+---5---+--- 10

### 2021 MALBEC PIRIE VINEYARD

“Drive out about 7 miles, keep straight until you hit the private road, head up over the hills and around the 2nd curve look for the dirt road between the vineyard. Follow the dirt road along the creekbed, then up the hill. At the top of the hill the East/West row is Malbec and the one we’re picking for you” Those were the directions back in 2017 or so when we first picked fruit from the Borden Ranch.

Coming from the flat, sandy Zinfandel fields surrounding Lodi, this area felt like a different world. Softly rolling hills that vary from red clay and gravel to small cobblestones. The vines growing here are far less vigorous than the valley floor and you can taste the difference in the fruit. The tannins and acid harden slightly with more layers of complexity in aromatics. Checking on the field almost..almost doesn’t feel like work, more like sneaking away to a hilltop view.

### THE GENTLEMAN V8 LODI APPELLATION

Out on the far edge of the sprawling Lodi Appellation sits the Clements hills. This area is scattered with old low foothills of alluvial wash over the top of many feet of cobblestones. It’s one of the most scenic sub appellations with small hills rising and falling into sharp valleys.

Perched upon one of those hills is a small vineyard composed of a handful of Italian grape varieties. This is where our Sangiovese, Nebbiolo & Montepulciano grows. Fast draining rugged soils and great sun exposure yield intense and complex wines.

This new vineyard combined with our existing favorite Barbera from Lodi produces a powerful palate of wines to build The Gentleman from.

### 2021 CABERNET FRANC LODI APPELLATION

With limited experience working with Cabernet Franc, I wasn’t exactly sure what to expect from this Bordeaux varietal. The vineyard itself was planted over 20 years ago in a mix of Orange Muscat, Alicante Bouchet, Sauvignon Blanc & Syrah. I vividly remember my winemaking friend telling me about a new vineyard he had contracted to plant a series of unique varieties on - this one. How quickly the years go by and that young vineyard is now getting on in age. This planting is a bi-lateral, with 2 arms extending out horizontally from the vine. The fruit bearing “canes” are vertically positioned, meaning that the grower tucks the lanky canes of the vine up and over a wire a foot or so above the vine’s large branches. This creates an open fruiting zone exposing the fruit to more air flow and sunlight. Particularly with some of these varieties prone to “green pepper” aromas this additional exposure helps to aid ripening, color formation and reduce green notes.

### 2021 BARBERA LODI APPELLATION

We always anticipate the delivery of the Barbera fruit with a mix of excitement and trepidation towards sorting the ice cold fruit from the tiny leaves scattered throughout. Numb fingers and sticky arms are the norm for those cold October mornings.

Leland Noma provided us with our very first vintage back in 2010 and offered us a 1/2 ton of Barbera. He said “If you sell it, pay me. If it doesn’t work, don’t worry about it.” From the first year working with that 1/2 ton, we’ve grown the program to well over 10 tons.

One of four original 1978 trial plantings of Barbera in the Lodi appellation, his field has become one of my favorites to work with. It sits in deep sandy soil in the south section of Lodi that requires a deft hand to maintain good water balance, yet yields consistently ripe and balanced fruit year after year.

VINEYARD INFORMATION	
GROWER:	Jeremy Trettevik
ACRES:	About 40 acres
APPELLATION:	Lodi - Borden Ranch
ELEVATION:	180 ft
AVERAGE HARVEST DATE:	September 2021
VARIETALS:	Malbec

VINEYARD INFORMATION	
GROWER:	Mixed Growers
ACRES:	1-20
APPELLATION:	Lodi & Amador Country
ELEVATION:	25-2300 ft
AVERAGE HARVEST DATE:	September-October
VARIETALS:	33% Sangiovese, 25% Barbera, 9% Nebbiolo, 25% Montepulciano, 8% Primitivo

VINEYARD INFORMATION	
GROWER:	RNR Vineyards
ACRES:	6 acres
APPELLATION:	Lodi
ELEVATION:	58 ft
AVERAGE HARVEST DATE:	October 2021
VARIETALS:	Cabernet Franc

VINEYARD INFORMATION	
GROWER:	Leland Noma
ACRES:	11 acres
APPELLATION:	Lodi
ELEVATION:	42 ft
AVERAGE HARVEST DATE:	October 2021
VARIETALS:	Barbera