



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING SANTA BARBARA COUNTY AS 2021 WINE REGION OF THE YEAR

WHEREAS, every year, Wine Enthusiast Magazine, the most influential voice in wine and drinks journalism, honors individuals and companies that make outstanding global contributions to the wine and alcohol beverage industry; and

WHEREAS, in the fall of 2021, Santa Barbara County was named internationally Wine Region of the Year, placing above other significant wine-making regions who were also nominated in countries such as South Africa, France, and New Zealand; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara's Wine Country is one of the world's most stunning wine regions, famous for its expansive views from the steep, transverse mountains to the craggy bluffs and scenic beaches; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County is home to seven federally recognized American Viticultural Areas – or “AVAs,” which are delimited grape-growing regions with specific geographic or climatic features that distinguish it from the surrounding regions and affect how grapes are grown; and

WHEREAS, within our region, the Sta. Rita Hills and Santa Maria Valley experience cool foggy mornings and regular afternoon winds, allowing cool-climate grapes such as Pinot Noir and Chardonnay to thrive. Warmer weather varieties, like Cabernet Sauvignon and Sauvignon Blanc, succeed in the Happy Canyon of Santa Barbara and Los Olivos District to the east. In between, Ballard Canyon fosters grapes typical of the Rhone Valley, as well as in the “Goldilocks Rhone Zone” of Alisos Canyon. Santa Ynez Valley encompasses such areas as Los Alamos Valley and Foxen Canyon, which can grow a wide array of grapes from Albariño to Zinfandel; and

WHEREAS, it is not only our County's remarkable terroir that makes our region special, but our industry professionals, from winemakers who create art in a bottle, to agricultural workers who nurture the grapes, to tasting room professionals who promote a culture of pride and enthusiasm for our wines; and

WHEREAS, Santa Barbara County has one of the highest proportions of women winemakers per region in California, and many wineries offering opportunities for vineyard and farm workers through shareholder bottlings and dedicated scholarships; and

WHEREAS, in addition to its variety of terroir, Santa Barbara County ranks high in sustainability, as it is home to some of the nation's first organic and biodynamic vineyards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Santa Barbara County does hereby honor the significant contributions and prestige that vintners and wine professionals have bestowed upon our region and their well-earned, global recognition as Wine Region of the Year.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Barbara, State of California, this 1st day of March, 2022 by a unanimous vote of all members present.



ATTEST: Monique Peresato
Clerk of the Board

Pat Gilliam
Supervisor - 1st District

Henry Kent
Supervisor - 2nd District

Joan Harber
Supervisor - 3rd District

Bob Weber
Supervisor - 4th District

Ed Jurey
Supervisor - 5th District