



FOXEN

Compass Club Newsletter

February 2025

Dear Members,

Happy New Year from all of us at Foxen! We hope your 2025 is off to a fantastic start, filled with joy, adventure, and -of course- exceptional wine. We're immensely grateful for your continued support and enthusiasm for Foxen. You're at the heart of everything we do, and we are excited to share what's on the horizon this year.

Winter at the winery is always a calm but busy time. David and the winemaking team are tasting through the 2024 wines in barrel, getting

initial ideas for blends and deciding which barrels of Pinot Noir will make up our Santa Maria Valley bottling. This is an important part of the winemaking process and will really give us a sense of the 2024 vintage, as well as what the final products will be like. We are also in preparation for the March bottling of our Rosé and Chenin Blanc, which always makes us excited for sunshine and warmer weather!

We are looking forward to seeing many of you at our upcoming wine club events. This year we are looking to create more intimate and creative events for you all to experience with us. After each wine club release, we will host a Wine Club Member Tasting Room Takeover at the winery. If you have not been to this event, we highly recommend you come this year! That day we will offer the opportunity to mingle with other members while tasting through your current shipment. There are also always some other fun treats and surprises.

For your private event needs, we want to remind you that we have our Clubhouse available to rent. The room is located in the old winery behind "the Shack" and can comfortably fit 28 guests. We have hosted some really fun birthdays, anniversaries, and food and wine tastings this past year and we hope to do more in 2025!

Again, thank you all for your continued love and support. We hope you enjoy this selection of wines as much as we do!

Warm Regards,

The Foxen Team



February 2025 Payment Detail

Pickup Members:

\$78.77 (including your 15% discount and local CA sales tax)

Shipping Members:

\$104.63 (including your 15% discount, local CA sales tax and CA shipping)

Your state tax and/or shipping rate may be different depending on your shipping address.

Wine Notes

2023 CHENIN BLANC, ERNESTO WICKENDEN VINEYARD

The Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard was planted in 1966, which makes these vines some of the oldest in Santa Barbara County. And while they've certainly seen their share of weather variations throughout the years, 2023 was likely a vintage they won't forget. The winter of 2023 blessed us with thirty-five inches of rain! This is more than twice our yearly average rainfall and a very exciting prospect from a winegrowing perspective. Unfortunately for Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard, all that rainfall also came with a catch: a January storm surge brought large debris flow down the nearby creek, which demolished the irrigation line used to water the vineyard. When we realized how complicated and expensive it would be to get the water system up and running again, we decided to take a chance and begin "dry farming" this vineyard. So, as well as its "old vines" status, as of 2023 Ernesto Wickenden Vineyard is now a truly dry-farmed vineyard, relying solely on natural rainfall for water. We picked this Chenin Blanc in the early mornings of October 13th and 14th. The fruit went directly to press and, after cold settling in tank, was transferred to fermentation vessels. For our Chenin Blanc, we typically ferment half in stainless steel tank and half in neutral French Oak. After fermentation, the two lots saw five months of aging in neutral oak puncheons (500 liter barrels), before blending and bottling in late March of 2024. The '23 opens with aromas of Anjou pear, green apple skin, beeswax, citrus blossom, and hints of wet rocks. It is juicy and mouthwatering on the palate, with a bit of salinity that begs for a seafood pairing. I would pair this with oysters and peel 'n eat shrimp. Drink now through 2027.

Production: 1,169 cases

Retail: \$30 | Compass Club price: \$25.50

93 points - International Wine Report

93 points - Vinous

91 points - Wine Advocate



Wine Notes

2021 RANGE 30 WEST

The Range 30 West is our proprietary blend of Merlot (38%) and Cabernet Franc (62%). 2021 was a relatively cool vintage in Santa Barbara County, which gave these late-ripening varieties plenty of time to hang on the vine and accumulate flavorful complexity, and the resulting wine is reflective of that. The Cabernet Franc (from our estate Tinaquaic Vineyard) supplies the core fruit aromatics, along with notes of cedar wood and dried chili powder, while the Merlot (from Vogelzang Vineyard in Happy Canyon) rounds out the blend with soft tannins and flavors of plum, black currant and dark chocolate, along with a minty finish. The Range 30 West was aged for 21 months in 225-liter French oak barrels, of which 50% were new, and the oak blends in seamlessly. This is one of our heavier reds, and demands an equally heavy food pairing. I'm going with oak-grilled lamb chops with chimichurri and some seasonal vegetables (think winter carrots, turnips, and leeks). Drink now through 2034.

Production: 400 cases

Retail Price: \$56 | Compass Club price: \$47.60



Upcoming Events

February 1-29, 2025 - ReSIPocal February - California Central Coast Wineries

As a member of FOXEN, a SIP Certified brand, you can receive two (2) complimentary tastings at any participating SIP Certified member's tasting room during the entire month of February! We look forward to introducing you to like-minded businesses that value sustainability and make their wine with care for the people and planet. Thank you for supporting sustainable winegrowing! For more information, please contact our Tasting Room Manager, Simone at simone@foxenvineyard.com.

February 15 & 16, 2025 - Ink & Wine - FOXEN, Santa Maria, CA

Join us for a weekend blending fine wine, breathtaking views, and meaningful artistry. We welcome Cambria, with Grooveline Tattoo, known for her signature stick and poke tattoo style; and LO AND CHLO JEWELRY will be here offering Permanent Bracelets. For more information, please contact our Tasting Room at TastingRoom@foxenvineyard.com

February 27 - March 1, 2025 - World of Pinot Noir - Ritz-Carlton Bacara, Santa Barbara, CA

We are excited to be participating in the annual World of Pinot Noir event that gathers the planet's foremost Pinot Noir wineries and winemakers, renowned chefs, sommeliers, and leading wine scholars in a weekend-long seaside celebration of this delicious and storied variety. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit <https://worldofpinotnoir.com>.

April 4-6, 2025 - 40th Anniversary Weekend - FOXEN, Santa Maria CA

Save the date to celebrate 40 years of Foxen wines! The weekend will include food trucks, library tastings and live music. More details to come.

April 12, 2025 - Members Tasting Room Takeover - FOXEN, Santa Maria CA

Mingle with Foxen family and friends while tasting a preview of your April Compass Club wines and some new releases. More details to come.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to stay connected to all things Foxen