

# The Grove



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**Farm Location: Valley Center**

**Farm Size: 11 acres**

**Main crop: Navel Oranges**

## THE GROVE

Meet Virginia Barnaba of The Grove, an 11-acre grove in Valley Center where nearly 900 Navel Orange trees call home. Virginia and her family have been operating this land for 9 years now and have been learning how to care for a grove over the past decade. Originally, Virginia and her family sought out this property with the goal of creating a soccer field on the vacant lot, but found themselves tending to the adjacent orange grove on the property as well.

With a historic piece of property that includes remnants of tribal activity and a gorgeous creek that collects rain water, there was little hesitancy for Virginia and her family to stay on the property and tend to the trees for the last 9 years.



Unlike most conventional farms, the fruit at The Grove stays on the tree until it is at its peak ripeness, giving it enough time to collect the full amount of sugar from the tree. You won't taste a sweeter or riper orange anywhere else! "I'm surprised that I hadn't known what an orange is supposed to taste like until I had one from the trees," Virginia says about their Navel Oranges.

Outside of farming, Virginia and her family have a big passion for soccer. Virginia's husband grew up playing and continues to play in an adult league today, and their kids play it nearly every season possible!

Virginia and her family also love to travel and learn about other cultures. "I love having my kids learn a sense of compassion and community from travelling." Check out The Grove's amazing citrus by emailing [rbarnaba19ca@yahoo.com](mailto:rbarnaba19ca@yahoo.com) or text (760)-807-9016! The oranges are typically available through February and March.



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