



# SAMSARA



## 2014 PINOT NOIR, SANTA RITA HILLS

SAMsARA is all about growing the perfect grapes in this young AVA to make highly textured Pinots and Syrahs unlike any others in California.

### WINEGROWING REGION

- The Sta. Rita Hills are situated in the country's only purely transverse east-west mountain range adjacent to the Pacific Ocean. The AVA was created in 2001.
- The wind is an incredible asset to this area, circulating air, which keeps the vigor of the vines and deters rot. The wind and fog create some of the coolest summer-time temperatures in California.
- The growing season extends 35 to 40 days longer than most other California growing regions, allowing opportunity to pick when stems, seeds, and fruit are all in perfect ripeness.

### WINERY BACKGROUND

SAMsARA Wine Company was founded in 2002. The winery name is a Sanskrit word meaning "the eternal cycle of life" representing "the eternal cycle that" "every vine and wine goes through in its lifetime."

SAMsARA's philosophy of pristine and healthy fruit allows for a non-manipulated wine-making process. SAMsARA's fruit is grown in  $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre plots of personally-selected rows in various Sta. Rita Hills vineyards. Picking fully-ripe stems and seeds is foundational to SAMsARA's overt fruitiness that develops during whole cluster fermentation. Along with the climate and soil, these diverse, handcrafted wines are a rare combination of full ripeness, concentration, excellent structure, minerality, high acidity, and moderate alcohol levels.

### WINEMAKING DETAILS

- Hand-harvested from the Melville, Las Hermanas, and Lafond Vineyards.
- 40% whole-cluster fermentation and pressed with an ultra-gentle stainless steel basket press in an 8-hour cycle, then fermented in small lots (2 tons) with native yeast only
- Year-round barrel maturation at 55 degrees
- No fining, no filtering, and two rackings and two SO<sub>2</sub> additions prior to bottling
- Aged in 80% neutral oak and 20% new French oak

### TASTING NOTES

- Aromatics of pepper, earth and olives with cherries and dark fruit, balanced by bright acidity
- Rich, textured and balanced on the palate
- Silky tannins add to the wine's approachability.

**92 POINTS**

*Vinous J.R., 2016*

**90 POINTS**

*Wine Advocate, 2016*

**91 POINTS**

*Wine Enthusiast, 2017*

**VINTAGE 2014**

### VARIETAL COMPOSITION

100% Pinot Noir

**PROXIMITY TO OCEAN** 8.7 miles

**ALCOHOL** 14.1%

**PH** 3.55

**TA** .62

**WHOLE CLUSTER FERMENTATION** 40%

**CASES PRODUCED** 850

