



WINEMAKER NOTES

Candied red fruits on the nose, firm acidity with a very textural midpalate, grippy tannins and a long finish.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	136
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills AVA
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	Pommard
% Whole cluster:	40%
Soil at site:	Sand/Loam/Clay
Barrels Aging:	15% new French oak, 85% neutral French oak 18 months
Alcohol:	13.9%
Brix:	23.8
pH at harvest:	3.34
Finished pH:	3.55
Finished TA:	6.3 g/L
Harvest date:	10/2/2018
Bottling date:	April 2020
Release date:	Summer 2021

2018 VINTAGE

The 2018 vintage is the stuff dreams are made of. The most 'classic' Santa Barbara County vintage of the decade with a cool, long growing season. A very 'civilized' harvest with no dramatic heat events or adverse weather. We were finally out of the half-decade drought thanks to the heavy rainfall in 2017, and vineyards were healthy and happy. Yields were moderate with some sites being slightly below average. The slightly low yields combined with extra 'hang-time' in 2018 resulted in super balanced and physiologically ripe fruit.

KESSLER-HAAK VINEYARD

Planted in 2005, Kessler-Haak Vineyard sits on 29 acres of east-facing rolling hillsides in the cooler northwestern portion of the Sta. Rita Hills. The soils vary from sandy to sandy loam with patches of clay loam. Seven Pinot Noir clones are planted on 3 different rootstocks with low yields averaging 1.2 – 1.5 ton/acre. Although not certified, vineyard practices are strictly organic. No pesticides or herbicides are used and weed control is done mechanically. Pest control is done through natural predators, such as hawks, badgers, and coyotes.

ACCOLADES

94 Points - Wine Advocate *The 2018 Pinot Noir Kessler-Haak Vineyard has a pale ruby color and fragrant scents of red berries, black tea leaves, lemon peel and earth. The medium-bodied palate is intense yet delicately styled, with a soft, grainy frame, bright, crunchy fruits and a long, spicy finish.* -Erin Brooks

94 Points - Wine Enthusiast *Pomegranate and dried cranberry aromas meet with baked earth and shiitake mushroom notes on the nose of this single vineyard expression. Clean, tart lines of red fruit weave through crushed rock flavors on the palate, with a warming oak element emerging toward the finish.* -Matt Kettmann