



### WINEMAKER NOTES

Complex aromatics with big fruit focus and more subtle minerality and chaparral/herbal qualities as well. Generous on the palate with richness and fruit-driven flavors, with bright acidity that helps maintain freshness and balance. Silky texture with fine but firm tannins providing structure and length.

### WINEMAKING

Cases: 605  
Appellation: Sta. Rita Hills AVA  
Varietal composition: 100% Pinot Noir  
Clonal selection: 114,115,667,777,Pommard  
% Whole cluster: 50%  
Soil at site: Sand/Clay/Loam/Limestone

Barrels | Aging: 10% New French oak, 90% neutral French oak | 16 months in barrel

Alcohol: 13.5%  
Brix: 22.7-23.8  
pH at harvest: 3.15-3.34  
Finished pH: 3.49  
Finished TA: 6.1 g/L

Harvest date: 9/13/2018 - 10/2/2018  
Bottling date: February 2020  
Release date: February 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.

### STA. RITA HILLS AVA

The Sta. Rita Hills AVA is significantly impacted by its proximity to the ocean (10 miles), consistent morning/evening fog, and steady afternoon winds. These cooling trends are not only perfectly suited to growing Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Grenache, and Syrah but also serve to prolong the growing season, allowing for heightened varietal flavor intensity. Additionally, the area's cool climate and vineyards' calcareous rock and sand help produce grapes with natural acidity and flavor balance.

### ACCOLADES

93 points - Wine Enthusiast *"This appellation blend is juicy while elegant, starting with aromas of black raspberry, intense hibiscus and a hint of carnation. The vibrant palate bounces from lively blasts of crushed currants, red plum and pomegranate to spicy tones of white pepper."* -Matt Kettmann

92 points - Vinous *"The 2018 Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills) is a fabulous introduction to the range. It reveals hints of red fruit flowers, rose petal, mint and blood orange. Medium in body, silky and aromatic, the 2018 shows just how magnificent this vintage is for Pinot. This understated, nuanced Pinot has so much to offer."* -Antonio Galloni