



WINEMAKER NOTES

This is all about minerality and sheer energy. It shows fabulous textural richness in its dark red fruit, not to mention a highly engaging personality. This is a very complete and promising wine that leans more on the savory side than the fruit side.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	210
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills AVA
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	777 & 115
% Whole cluster:	66%
Soil at site:	Sand, Clay/Loam, Limestone
Barrels Aging:	25% new French oak 22 months
Alcohol:	13.4%
Finished pH:	3.66
Finished TA:	6.2 g/L

2013 VINTAGE

The 2013 vintage wines stand out as one of SB County's most age-worthy vintages. 2013 was the second dry year in a row (and the draught continued until 2017). Low yields gave extra structure and concentration to the fruit, making for powerful young wines that would benefit from time in the cellar. It was a warm growing season all year long, which finally cooled off during the final weeks of harvest, providing long hangtime with a little extra kiss of sunshine. The 2013 wines are dark, complex, and wonderfully balanced.

LAS HERMANAS VINEYARD

Las Hermanas Vineyard sits to the west of the Melville Estate Vineyard, just 8 miles from the ocean. It is planted on over six different soil types, all of marine origin. SAMsARA's hillside section of Pinot Noir is located towards the top of the vineyard, where it is well-drained and aggressively sloped.

ACCOLADES

94 points - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous Bold*, rich and explosive, the 2013 Pinot Noir Las Hermanas Vineyard is a classic Sta. Rita Hills Pinot built on exuberant fruit and a real sense of flamboyance. The 50% whole clusters are nearly buried. Lavender, violet, cloves, new leather and licorice wrap around a core of blue/purplish-hued fruits. Even with all of its overtness, the 2013 retains striking freshness. - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*

91+ points - Jeb Dunnuck, *Wine Advocate* Showing more masculine notes of peppery herbs, underbrush, smoked dark fruits and licorice, the 2013 Pinot Noir Las Hermanas (50% stems and 20 months in 30% new French oak) is rich and meaty on the palate, with plenty of fine tannin showing on the finish. I like its overall balance and purity, and it should be even better this time next year. - Jeb Dunnuck, *The Wine Advocate*