



WINEMAKER NOTES

This wine is the best of what Sta. Rita Hills Pinot can be: pure, focused, silky, velvety, bold and expressive without being heavy. This wine is all about texture, and the tannin profile is wonderfully rich without being mouthcoating. This wine is polished, pretty and textural, and the umami pops on finish. Delicious.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	44
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills AVA
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	667 + 114
% Whole cluster:	50%
Soil at site:	Loam/Clay/Chert
Barrels Aging:	50% New French oak 11 months
Alcohol:	13.5%
Brix:	22.6 + 22.8
pH at harvest:	3.25 + 3.29
Finished pH:	3.53
Finished TA:	6.4 g/L
Harvest date:	9/13/2019 + 9/21/2019
Bottling date:	August 2020
Release date:	September 2022

2019 VINTAGE

2019 was a near perfectly 'normal' cool-climate Santa Barbara vintage. The kind of normal it feels like we rarely see anymore. Plenty of rainfall early in the year and moderate summer weather gave us an even growing season and a balanced crop. Chardonnay and Pinot began ripening in early-mid September. We didn't see the super extreme heat during the beginning of harvest, allowing for a steady and civilized pick schedule. The 2019 wines show good flavor concentration and depth from the extra hangtime, while still retaining their balance and freshness.

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

95 points - Matt Kettmann, Wine Enthusiast Lovely and super-fresh strawberry, fennel and wet-soil aromas lure the nose deep into this bottling. There's a firm structure on the palate, giving a backbone to the pleasurable and joyous flavors of red fruit and baking spice. -Matt Kettmann

94+ points - Vinous The 2019 Pinot Noir Lotus is a selection of the best two barrels in the cellar. The Lotus is a bit more perfumed and lighter in body than most of the other Pinots, largely owing to generous use of stems here. It's a style that works especially well in 2019. Time in the glass releases a whole range of purplish fruit, lavender, spice and menthol. I would give this a year or two in the cellar. -Antonio Galloni