



## WINEMAKER NOTES

Always a fan favorite, our Pinot Noir from Rancho La Viña Vineyard shines again in 2019. Spicy, savory notes are balanced by rich, dark fruits - black currant, ripe cherry and tart blackberry. One of our more textual Pinots, this wine has concentrated, silky tannins and great length on the finish. Drinking great now but will age for another decade easily.

## WINEMAKING

Cases:	126
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills AVA
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	114
% Whole cluster:	75%
Soil at site:	Loam/Clay/Chert
Barrels   Aging:	30% new French oak   16 months
Alcohol:	13.1%
Brix:	22.8
pH at harvest:	3.29
Finished pH:	3.5
Finished TA:	6.5 g/L
Harvest date:	9/13/2019
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.

## RANCHO LA VIÑA VINEYARD

Rancho la Viña Vineyard was planted in 2005 at the far southwestern edge of the Sta. Rita Hills. Situated on a gently-sloped mesa several hundred feet above the valley floor and fully exposed to the cool winds coming off the Pacific Ocean, this site is one of the coldest Pinot Noir vineyards in California. Along with the region's marine influence, the site's low fertility sandy loam soils yield very small berries, which give the wines remarkably deep, dark color and intense flavors.

## ACCOLADES

95 Points - Wine Enthusiast *Luscious aromas of dark cherry, candied strawberry and mashed plum pickup complex notes of earth and mushroom on the nose of this single-vineyard expression. Those lively red-fruit flavors are pure and fresh on the palate, where they are cut by crushed peppercorn, lovely hibiscus and light tarragon.* -Matt Kettmann

93 Points - Wine & Spirits *This dry-farmed site on the far west of the appellation was planted in 2005 on clay loams. It yielded a dark, spicy wine, with scents of turf, lavender, tobacco and wood spice. The flavors are lean and, despite the robust color, the wine possesses a gorgeous delicacy. Pour it with duck confit.* -P.J.C.