



WINEMAKER NOTES

The 2020 Pinot noir, Bentrock Vineyard is downright delicious with notes of strawberries, wet rocks, red licorice, melted strawberry popsicle, strawberry gusher and black cherry. Supple tannins are well-integrated into this balanced, complex Pinot that will delight any and all dinner guests.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	120
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Vineyard selection:	100% Bentrock Vineyard
Clonal selection:	777
% Whole cluster:	50%
Soil at site:	Loam/chert/DE
Barrels Aging:	40% new French oak 11 months
Alcohol:	12.9%
Brix:	21.8
pH at harvest:	3.34
Finished pH:	3.69
Finished TA:	6.1 g/L
Harvest date:	9/12/2020
Bottling date:	August 2021
Release date:	Spring 2023

2020 VINTAGE

2020 was a whirlwind harvest in a less-than-normal year. Fruit came in relatively early due to a warm summer, but fruit quality was incredibly high. With decent rainfall, vines were healthy and a warm spring helped usher in a balanced crop. Chardonnay and Pinot began ripening in late August. A bit of heat at the beginning of harvest kicked things off with a bang, but moderate temperatures throughout the fall kept Rhônes on the vine a little longer. The 2020 wines show good flavor concentration and depth, while still retaining their balance and freshness.

BENTROCK VINEYARD

Bentrock Vineyard is the westernmost planting along Santa Rosa Road on the old Salsipuedes Ranch (The ranch was broken into two vineyards, Radian and Bentrock). Even on warm days in the valley, it is still breezy and cold at Bentrock. The soils are complex. The soils are sandy but there is some variability with some richer parts as well lots of interesting limestone and sandstone, even a little bit of shale. Bentrock is one of those cool climate sites where the style works really well for SAMsARA because we're able to make an acid-driven style where fruit is picked on the early side; fresh and bright, but the resulting wine has tons of depth, texture and complexity.

ACCOLADES

92 points - Vinous *The 2020 Pinot Noir Bentrock Vineyard is a tense, nervy wine. White pepper, mint, orange peel, raspberry and crushed rocks infuse the 2020 with notable brightness. It will be interesting to see if this fleshes out a bit more in bottle. Today, the lines are decidedly stark and touch severe.* -Antonio Galloni

91 points - Wine & Spirits *Light cherry scents give way to lean, mildly tart cranberry flavors, lined with a five-spice savor and peppery tannins. For tinned fish.* -P.J.C.