



## WINEMAKER NOTES

This powerfully concentrated Pinot noir masterfully combines intensity and elegance. On the nose there is everything from the delicate notes of dried florals to savory mushroom aromas as well as sweet fruit and red berries. This wine is flashy on the palate and brings both fruit intensity and complexity.

## WINEMAKING

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Cases:                | 44  |
| Appellation:          | Sta. Rita Hills AVA                       |
| Varietal composition: | 100% Pinot Noir                           |
| Clonal selection:     | 667                                       |
| % Whole cluster:      | 60%                                       |
| Soil at site:         | Sand/Loam                                 |
| Barrels   Aging:      | 58% New French oak (500 L)  <br>18 months |
| Alcohol:              | 13.2%                                     |
| Brix:                 | 21.8 + 23.2                               |
| pH at harvest:        | 3.34 + 3.37                               |
| Finished pH:          | 3.67                                      |
| Finished TA:          | 6.0 g/L                                   |
| Harvest date:         | 9/12/20, 9/24/20                          |
| Bottling date:        | March 2022                                |
| Release date:         | September 2024                            |

## 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.

## 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

92 points - *Vinous* The 2020 Pinot Noir Lotus is a selection of the best two barrels in the cellar. In this tasting, it comes across as a bit fleeting and light in body. The aromatics are quite attractive, but there is just not the depth of the best wines in the range. Sweet dried cherry, kirsch, herbs, mint, dried flowers are nicely lifted. -Antonio Galloni