



WINEMAKER NOTES

This maritime-influenced Pinot Noir leans to the savory side of the spectrum with umami notes, salinity and textural richness. The texture is created by the high proportion of whole-cluster fermentation which is made possible by the dense core of dark fruit flavors we always find at Rancho La Viña. From this we can create a beautifully balanced, structured, dense and layered wine that will age beautifully.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	158
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Vineyard selection:	100% Rancho La Viña Vineyard
Clonal selection:	114
% Whole cluster:	50%
Soil at site:	Loam/chert/clay
Barrels Aging:	30% neutral French oak 11 months
Alcohol:	13.4%
Brix:	21.3-23.8
pH at harvest:	3.38-3.51
Finished pH:	3.73
Finished TA:	6.1 g/L
Harvest date:	9/5 + 9/16/2020
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.

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

94 Points - Wine Advocate Pale ruby, the 2020 Pinot Noir Rancho la Vina Vineyard has a nose of red and black cherries, mossy bark, mushrooms, tobacco leaves and tones of orange peel and Angostura bitters. The medium-bodied palate is chalky and very fresh with a core of perfumed fruits that give way to spicy accents sweeping across the long finish. - Erin Brooks

93 Points - Vinous The 2020 Pinot Noir Rancho La Viña Vineyard is bright and explosive in the glass. A rush of sweet red berry fruit, mint, chalk, white pepper and blood orange races across the palate. The 2020 balances tension with fruit richness, all framed by insistent tannins and brisk acids. It's a beautifully done Pinot from SAMsARA and winemaker Matt Brady. -Antonio Galloni