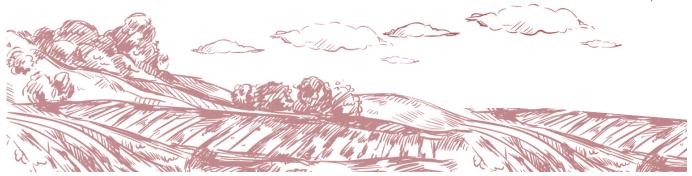


# 2021 PINOT NOIR CUVÉE D'INSPRIRATION

STA. RITA HILLS, AVA SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CA



# WINEMAKER NOTES

This Pinot noir is quintessentially Sta. Rita Hills: savory, spicy and herby with a core of dark fruit up font. The fruit is giving on the palate: candied cherries, cherry tootsie pops, black plums, dr. pepper and sassafras. This wine is well structured but balanced and still fresh and light on its feet. This one is absolutely ready to drink today but will morph into a more complex wine with age.

#### WINEMAKING

Cases: 91

Appellation: Sta. Rita Hills Varietal composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Clonal selection: 667

Vineyard selection: 50% Radian, 25% La Encantada,

25% Bentrock

% Whole cluster: 30%

Soil at site: Loam/DE/Chert/Clay

Barrels | Aging: 27% new French oak (500L) | 10

months

Alcohol: 13.5

Brix: 23.2-24.3 pH at harvest: 3.23-3.29 Finished pH: 3.73 Finished TA: 5.4 g/L

Harvest date: 9/22/21-10/5/21
Bottling date: August 2022
Release date: January 2024

#### 2021 VINTAGE

One of the best vintages in recent memory, 2021 was an even, cool vintage allowing fruit extended hang time to concentrate flavors and complexity without losing acid. Wines from this vintage are powerful while still being moderate in alcohol, and maintaining freshness and fruit purity.

## 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**

Not yet reviewed