



## WINEMAKER NOTES

This Pinot noir is quintessentially Sta. Rita Hills: savory, spicy and herby with a core of dark fruit up front. The fruit is giving on the palate: candied cherries, cherry tootsie pops, black plums, dr. pepper and saffras. 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.

*Vineyard composition: 50% Radian, 25% La Encantada, 25% Bentrock*

## WINEMAKING

Cases:	91
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	667
% 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

95 points - Wine Enthusiast *Elegant waves of crumpled red and purple flower aromas decorate tense plum and damp earth elements on the nose of this bottling. The palate is tightly wound, pitting hibiscus, lavender and raspberry flavors against chipped rocks and dusty sprigs of thyme. This will last long, so drink now-2039.* — Matt Kettmann

92 points - Vinous *The 2021 Pinot Noir Cuvée d'Inspiration is plump, juicy and forward, but also captures a good bit of the energy that makes the western part of the Sta. Rita Hills so appealing. Vineyard sources are Radian, Bentrock and La Encantada. Blood orange, dried herbs and crushed rocks linger. There's great depth here.* -Antonio Galloni