



## WINEMAKER NOTES

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## WINEMAKING

Cases:	101
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	Clone 667 + Pommard
% Whole cluster:	50%
Soil at site:	Sand/Sandy Loam
Barrels   Aging:	30% new French oak   22 months
Alcohol:	14.2%
Finished pH:	3.51
Finished TA:	6.0 g/L

## 2014 VINTAGE

Another year of drought, with intense heat leading into harvest. Despite the hot, dry conditions, the vines produced big yields in fruit. Expect wines with strong fruit characteristics, juiciness, and wonderful accessibility. These are wines driven by primary red fruit characteristics and a bright acid profile.

## MELVILLE VINEYARD

Melville Vineyard sits in the cool-climate Sta. Rita Hills AVA. SAMsARA's sections are located just behind the winery, planted in deep, light-textured sandy loam soil at an 8' x 3' spacing (1,815 vines/acre). The vineyard is predominantly north/south-facing and the vines are all vertically shoot positioned with aggressive canopy management to ensure proper ripening and varietal development.

## ACCOLADES

94 points - *Vinous* The 2014 Pinot Noir Melville Vineyard is the most polished and silky of this range of Pinots. Bright, red-toned fruit, orange zest, mint and rose petal lead into the seamless, silky finish. The Melville is a wine of exceptional beauty and finesse. Moreover, the balance of fruit, acid and tannin is impeccable. - Antonio Galloni

93+ points - *The Wine Advocate*

Pale to medium ruby-purple colored, the 2014 Pinot Noir Melville Vineyard is very subtle on the nose, revealing gentle pomegranate and rhubarb nuances with fragrant earth and moss hints. Medium-bodied, with the fruit and earth layers tightly wound and compressed like a spring, it has a firm backbone of chewy tannins and great freshness, finishing with lingering herb and mineral notes. Give this beautiful good 2 years in bottle and drink it over the next 8-10 years+. Anticipated maturity 2019-2029 - Erin Brooks