



WINEMAKER NOTES

Explosive aromatics and intensity define this wine, with layers of strawberry, Bing cherry, black tea, and blood orange zest. The palate is round yet energetic, supported by well-integrated acid and tannin that stretch the wine out beautifully. It opens with lush, ripe fruit and finishes with a crunchy, bright lift. Complex, expressive, and deeply enjoyable.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	202
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	114, 115
% Whole cluster:	67%
Soil at site:	Loam/Clay/Chert
Barrels Aging:	10% new French oak 10 months
Alcohol:	13.4%
Brix:	23.0-23.8
pH at harvest:	3.25-3.30
Finished pH:	3.53
Finished TA:	5.7 g/L
Harvest date:	9/27/2023-9/28/2023
Bottling date:	8/15/2024

ACCOLADES

97 points - James Suckling *Richness and elegance go hand in hand, with concentrated aromas and flavors of hibiscus, raspberries and other forest fruit. Counterpoints of blood oranges, rhubarb and more minerally notes emerge with air. The lingering red-tea and violet finish remains taut and mouthwatering. Drink or hold, but patience will be rewarded.* -James Suckling

95 points - Cristaldi & Co *Just nine barrels were produced of this expressive and captivating Pinot Noir, sourced from Rancho La Viña Vineyard. Native yeast fermentation with 100% whole clusters and extended barrel aging lend the wine remarkable complexity and aromatic lift. Black cherry fruit leaps from the glass, laced with incense, smoked paprika, and exotic spice. Finely layered apple-skin tannins provide excellent grip and texture across the mid-palate, while the dark cherry and spice notes carry through an everlasting, savory finish.* -Cristaldi & Co

2023 VINTAGE

The 2023 wines show an intensity and vibrance that can only come from an extreme long and cool winegrowing season. 2023 had the latest harvest dates in the modern Sta. Rita Hills winemaking era. The winter was cold and wet with record rainfall. An especially grey/overcast spring led to an extended 'flowering' period. Cool weather continued through the summer. Finally in mid-September we got a late 'Labor Day' heatwave and that final kiss of sunshine, combined with the extra-long hangtime, makes the vintage sing on all levels: bright acidity from the cool season, ripe rich flavors from the long hangtime, and a high level of balance.

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.