



**VINEYARD SOURCES:** 100% *La Encantada Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills*. Located just west of the legendary Sanford & Benedict Vineyard, La Encantada is in the heart of Sta. Rita Hills' quintessential Pinot Noir zone. The estate was planted by Richard Sanford in 2001 and was one of the first vineyards in Santa Barbara County to be certified organic. Comprised of 100 acres of mostly Pinot Noir, this north-facing vineyard is planted on a ridge straddling the Santa Ynez River Valley and is open to the cooling marine breezes, which sweep in from the Pacific Ocean. Soils are a combination of clay, loam, shale and sand. The 3-acre block dedicated to Ken Brown Wines is planted to Pinot Noir clone 115.

**VINTAGE:** Contrary to the erratic weather of the 2010 and 2011 vintages, 2012 featured very favorable, well-timed weather patterns throughout the growing season. Winter rainfall was below average, but showers in March replenished the soil profile just as the vines were beginning the growth cycle. Consistently cool summer temperatures and several warm spells in September and October helped fully ripen the fruit. Crop size was characteristically small, which promoted concentration and complexity in the fruit. Grapes from La Encantada Vineyard were hand-harvested on October 5.

**WINEMAKING:** Pinot Noir clusters for this wine were hand sorted before being de-stemmed and gravity fed to fermenters. The must was immediately chilled for a pre-fermentation cold soak where the most beneficial extraction of color, aroma and flavor occurs. During fermentation, concentration was enhanced by gently punching down the cap several times per day. The wine aged 17 months in French oak barrels with 37% new French oak and was bottled on March 19, 2014.

**TASTING NOTES:** A gorgeous ruby color in the glass is matched by pretty aromatics and an elegant, stylish texture on the palate. Bright, luscious aromas of tart red cherry and black raspberry are accented by a touch of cracked pepper and fresh earth. A velvety mouthfeel beautifully supports the dark cherry and dark berry flavors and culminates in an opulent, lingering finish with a hint of allspice in the background. The wine's approachable tannins and superb balance assure great cellar potential.

#### TECHNICAL DATA

T.A.: 5.6 g/l

pH: 3.62

Alcohol: 14.3%

Production: 187 cases