



VINEYARD SOURCES: *100% Radian Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills.* One of the appellation’s most picturesque and coldest vineyards, this estate is located in the southwest corner of Sta. Rita Hills, unsheltered from direct exposure to cold winds and marine fog from the Pacific Ocean. Planted in 2007, Radian has quickly become one of the superstars of the AVA. Soils are very rocky with clay loam and generous amounts of diatomaceous earth. The austere soils combined with persistent coastal winds result in small clusters and tiny berries, leading to deep, concentrated wines. 59% of the blend is from clone 115; the balance is from clone 667.

VINTAGE: 2013 is hailed as a near perfect vintage across the state of California, described as “early, even and excellent.” Harvest began about two weeks earlier than normal in Santa Barbara County and weather patterns were ideal—every week brought a warm up followed by a cool down in temperatures. This pattern allowed grapes to develop slowly and evenly, enabling winemakers to pick at the perfect ripeness. Yields were slightly above normal due to a greater number of clusters on each vine, but berry size remained small. Grapes from Radian were harvested on October 5 and 7.

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 18 months in French oak barrels, longer than our other Pinot Noirs, allowing the extraordinary layers of complexity to be expressed. About 35% of the barrels were new French oak. The wine was bottled on May 13, 2015.

TASTING NOTES: This is a profound cold climate Pinot Noir boasting a beautiful garnet color and incredible richness. The wine offers aromas of black cherry, raspberry and pomegranate with accents of wood smoke and roasted meat. An explosion of flavors includes hints of black raspberry and pomegranate with a touch of minerality and dark earth. The luxurious texture is richly layered, superbly balancing smooth tannins with a gentle thread acidity and setting the stage for outstanding aging potential. The exceptionally long finish culminates in a rich touch of roasted espresso bean.

TECHNICAL DATA

T.A.: 6.1 g/l

pH: 3.49

Alcohol: 14.7%

Production: 247 cases