



2019 RANCHO LA VIÑA PINOT NOIR

Appellation	Sta. Rita Hills
T.A.	6.75 g/l
pH	3.53
Alcohol	14.2%
Production	95 cases

VINEYARD

100% Rancho La Viña, Sta. Rita Hills

This remarkable vineyard is located at the far western edge on the south side of the Sta. Rita Hills appellation. The 17-acre site was planted in 2005 on a gently sloped mesa, which is several hundred feet above the valley floor. The vines are fully exposed to the cool winds coming off the Pacific Ocean, making it one of the coldest Pinot Noir plantings in California. The block used for Ken Brown Wines is planted to Pinot Noir clone 115.

VINTAGE

The 2019 vintage enjoyed a long, cool growing season, which resulted in bright aromatics, complex flavors and well-balanced natural acidity in the grapes. A mild spring led to late budbreak and bloom, and temperatures remained below average for most of the growing season. Warmer late summer weather kicked off the harvest season, and we picked all our Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir in a 13-day window from September 12-25. Overall, grapes were ideally ripened with pure fruit expression and rich concentration. Pinot Noir from Rancho La Viña was harvested on September 18.

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 11 months in French oak barrels with 25% new French oak and was bottled on September 2, 2020.

TASTING NOTES

This Pinot Noir features a rich aromatic profile with bright fruit expression interwoven with layers of complexity. Aromas of red cherry, ripe raspberry and red currant are enhanced by hints of bramble and clove. Flavors of dark cherry and cranberry with touches of cinnamon and anise give way to plush tannins, refreshing acidity and a long finish. Additional cellaring will add even more complexity to this wine, assuring excellent aging potential.