

2019 RADIAN VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

Appellation Sta. Rita Hills

T.A. 5.6 g/L pH 3.60 Alcohol 14.3%

Production 139 cases

VINEYARD

100% Radian Vineyard

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's soils are Botella clay heavenly laden with shale rock. The austere soils combined with persistent coastal winds result in small clusters and tiny berries, leading to deep, concentrated wines. Pinot Noir clones used in this wine include 667 from Block 41 (50%) and 115 from Block 40 (50%).

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. Warm late summer weather coaxed the fruit to ripeness, and we picked most of our Sta. Rita Hills grapes in a busy 13-day window from September 12-25. Overall, grapes were ideally ripened with pure fruit expression and rich concentration. At Radian, Block 41 was harvested on September 20th and Block 40 on the 25th.

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. The wine aged 15 months in French oak barrels. The barrel composition included 33% new French oak. The wine was racked once and bottled unfined and unfiltered on March 31st, 2021.

TASTING NOTES

Radian Pinot Noir is known for power and finesse, and the 2019 vintage is no different. Time in barrel and bottle has brought out incredible complexity. The aromatics give hints of red plums, pomegranates and flinty minerality. The palate is smooth and silky, with flavors of red cherries, fresh morrells and a subtle note of dark chocolate. Well-structured and densely layered, this wine will continue to develop and improve in the cellar for several year.