



2015 RADIAN VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

Appellation	Sta. Rita Hills
T.A.	5.7 g/L
pH	3.54
Alcohol	14.5%
Production	271 cases

VINEYARD

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'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 115 (53%) and 667 (47%).

VINTAGE

The 2015 vintage is a record vintage in many ways. It was the earliest harvest on record, eclipsing the previous 2014 record by up to two weeks for most varietals. A relatively mild winter led to an early start to the ripening cycle. Once buds began to push, mild spring weather allowed them to develop at an accelerated pace uninterrupted by spring frosts. Yields were also record low, ranging from one to one and a half tons per acre at Radian Vineyard. Near perfect ripening conditions coupled with small berry size resulted in superb quality fruit. Harvest dates were August 31 and September 4.

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. Concentration was enhanced by gently punching down the cap several times per day. The wine aged 20 months in French oak barrels, longer than our other Pinot Noirs, allowing the extraordinary layers of complexity to be expressed. About 29% of the barrels were new French oak. The wine was bottled on March 10, 2017.

TASTING NOTES

This is a profound cold climate Pinot Noir boasting a beautiful garnet color and incredible richness. The wine offers aromas of dark plum, pomegranate, and black raspberry with accents of rose petal, white pepper and minerality characteristic of Radian Vineyard. An explosion of gorgeous fruit flavors includes hints of black cherry and blackberry with a touch of espresso and dark chocolate. The luxurious texture is richly layered, superbly balancing smooth tannins with a gentle thread of acidity, setting the stage for outstanding aging potential.