



2016 ENVISION PINOT NOIR

Appellation	Sta. Rita Hills
T.A.	6.1 g/l
pH	3.65
Alcohol	14.5%
Production	204 cases

VINEYARDS

45% Rancho La Viña, 11% Rita's Crown, 11% Radian, 11% Sanford & Benedict,
11% Hilliard Bruce, 11% Zotovich

Sta. Rita Hills is home to some of the planet's finest Pinot Noir vineyards. The Pinot Noir grape excels at expressing its natural environment, making each vineyard distinctive in its own way. *Envision* gives life to the special sense of place that is the Sta. Rita Hills by bringing together the vineyards that best reflect this marine-swept appellation. Ken curates the best lots into an exceptional blend, representing a unique sensory image of Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir.

VINTAGE

Unseasonably warm weather in February was moderated by cold nighttime temperatures, suppressing budbreak until early March. While the limited winter rainfall was disappointing, the timing was advantageous. Most precipitation fell January through March, allowing flowering and set to occur without the threat of damage. The rest of the harvest season saw cooler temperatures alternate with short warmer spells, which helped winemakers target optimum ripening of the fruit. Crop yields were average and berry size was small to medium.

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, six months longer than our Sta. Rita Hills blend. There was 31% new French oak in the barrel mix and the wine was bottled on April 18, 2018.

TASTING NOTES

This debut release of *Envision* Pinot Noir is brimming with intensity and poise, beautifully portraying Ken's vision of the Sta. Rita Hills appellation. Vivid aromas of black cherry and plum chutney are highlighted by notes of sage, spice and a touch of candied apple. On the palate, hints of dark cherry and plum give way to a lush mid-palate and rich earth tones that carry through to the lingering finish. Additional time in the bottle will add even more layers of complexity to this wine, assuring excellent aging potential.