



2019 STA. RITA HILLS PINOT NOIR

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| Appellation | Sta. Rita Hills |
| T.A. | 5.67 g/l |
| pH | 3.73 |
| Alcohol | 14.2% |
| Production | 307 cases |

VINEYARDS

32% Rio Vista, 32% John Sebastiano, 16% Rancho La Viña, 12% Radian, 8% Sanford & Benedict

This wine is a beautiful overview of the Sta. Rita Hills, combining Pinot Noir from across the temperature zones of the appellation. Rio Vista Vineyard represents the eastern end of the appellation where temperatures are slightly warmer. The rest of the vineyards sourced for this wine are located further west in the heart of Sta. Rita Hills' cool Pinot Noir zone. Marine winds and coastal fog combined with lean soils make Sta. Rita Hills ideal for the cultivation of world class Pinot Noir.

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.

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 10 months in French oak barrels with 24% new French oak and was bottled on August 11, 2020.

TASTING NOTES

This wine is an authentic portrayal of Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir featuring brilliant fruit aromatics and a rich profile. Aromas of black cherry and raspberry are highlighted by notes of white pepper, forest floor and cedar. On the palate, hints of black raspberry, blackberry jam, vanilla bean and baking spices give way to a velvety mid-palate and prolonged finish. Soft, chalky tannins and a balanced acid profile make this wine ready to drink now, though it will continue to develop with additional time in the cellar.