

2016

THE JAMES

Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir

VINEYARD NOTES

Fruit for this wine comes from three vineyards at the southern part of the Sta. Rita Hills: Rita's Crown, La Rinconada and Sanford & Benedict.

Rita's Crown Vineyard: Sits on the north side of the Santa Ynez river in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA. It's valley runs east-west which allows the cool winds to pour in from the Pacific Ocean miles away. Famous for its "moon dust" diatomaceous earth veins, Rita's Crown is densely planted and sits high in the hills allowing for excellent drainage and exposure. With fog burning off late in the morning and rolling in early in the afternoon, Rita's Crown gets a long growing season to allow the grapes to attain optimal ripeness.

La Rinconada: This Sta. Rita Hills AVA is planted exclusively with Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. The vineyard sits on a well-drained, north-west facing slope. Due to the heavy Pacific fog, which pools into this valley, it is an ideal region for cool-climate varieties.

Sanford & Benedict: Neighbors to La Rinconada, this site is one of California's most historic sites. This famous vineyard is directly north from the Santa Ynez River in the Sta. Rita Hill's Appellations. Known for well-drained soils and cool Pacific coast climate this Pinot Noir lives in rich terroir.

VINTAGE NOTES

2016 was a relatively smooth year that unfolded at a steady pace and with mild temperatures. While we didn't have many exceptionally hot days, it was one of the earlier harvests on our record. Flowering and fruit set beautifully and yields were above normal, which was a nice change from previous years. We harvested our first grapes in mid-August, and had picked about 25% of our Pinot Noir and then a sudden cool spell arrived. This allowed cooler climate vineyards that had yet to be harvested to remain on the vine longer and develop deep and expressive flavors. The berries were smaller and heartier than normal which resulted in great depth of color and structure. We are extremely excited by the 2016's - they are something special! Pretty, expressive, and pleasurable.



THREE STICKS



APPELLATION:	BARREL AGING:	ALCOHOL CONTENT:
Sta. Rita Hills	11 Months	14.5%
VARIETAL CONTENT:	BARREL COMPOSITION:	PRODUCTION:
100% Pinot Noir	100% French Oak, 55% New	265 Cases
FERMENTATION:	TOTAL ACIDITY (TA):	RELEASE DATE:
Open Top Fermenters	6.2 g/L	February 6, 2018
WHOLE CLUSTER:	PH:	
22%	3.40	

We believe in stewardship of the land, the vineyards, and the people. We are for real connections, real history, real wines; experiences you will never forget. We welcome you to our home, the Adobe, for an historic tasting in Sonoma.