

# SANTA BARBARA WINERY

## SANTA RITA HILLS PINOT NOIR 2018



**REGION:** SANTA RITA HILLS AVA

**VARIETAL:** 100% PINOT NOIR (67% Lafond Vineyards, 33% Burning Creek Ranch)

**VINEYARDS:** Lafond & Burning Creek Ranch, Santa Rita Hills

The Santa Rita Hills is a small appellation at the western end of the Santa Ynez Valley that has gained national recognition for its Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The Valley runs west to east permitting the late afternoon ocean fog to roll into the Santa Rita Hills, where it lingers until early morning. The surrounding hills trap the fog before it is dissipated in the wider Santa Ynez Valley. In the summer the fog moderates the normally warm days of the valley, cooling the grapes at night. Warm days and cool nights are essential to the development of Pinot Noir providing the necessary acid/sugar balance. In the spring when frost is our biggest concern a layer of fog over the vineyard can provide protection.

**HARVEST:** September 1-23, 2016

**BOTTLED:** August 21 & 22, 2017

**TECHNICAL NOTES:** 40 barrel lot; 14% new oak.

Total Acid: .68 | pH: 3.41 | Alcohol: 14.7% | Harvest Sugar: 25.1 Brix | Sugar at Bottling: Dry

**TASTING NOTES:** This wine delivers explosive cherry cola and blackberry pie aromatics up front with subtle spice and dried thyme tones weaved in. Full, ripe, and approachable in its youth, this wine has a refined mouthfeel and sufficient acidity to pull all of the elements together.

**WINEMAKER'S NOTES:** 2016 had an average crop compared to a tiny 2015. The canopy was small and low vigour due to the ongoing draught. Small clusters with great light exposure allowed great flavor development. 8 clones were used for more complexity.

UPC: 0 87951 02574 0  
12pk/750ml



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