



WINEMAKER NOTES

This powerfully concentrated Pinot noir masterfully combines intensity and elegance. On the nose there is everything from the delicate notes of dried florals to savory mushroom aromas as well as sweet fruit and red berries. This wine is flashy on the palate and brings both fruit intensity and complexity.

WINEMAKING

Cases:	45
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills AVA
Varietal composition:	100% Pinot Noir
Clonal selection:	667, 777
% Whole cluster:	60%
Soil at site:	Sand/Loam
Barrels Aging:	58% New French oak (500 L) 15 months
Alcohol:	13.2%
Brix:	21.8 + 23.2
pH at harvest:	3.34 + 3.37
Finished pH:	3.67
Finished TA:	6.0 g/L
Harvest date:	9/12/20, 9/24/20
Bottling date:	March 2022
Release date:	Fall 2024

2020 VINTAGE

2020 was a whirlwind harvest in a less-than-normal year. Fruit came in relatively early due to a warm summer, but fruit quality was incredibly high. With decent rainfall, vines were healthy and a warm spring helped usher in a balanced crop. Chardonnay and Pinot began ripening in late August. A bit of heat at the beginning of harvest kicked things off with a bang, but moderate temperatures throughout the fall kept Rhônes on the vine a little longer. The 2020 wines show good flavor concentration and depth, while still retaining their balance and freshness.

STA. RITA HILLS AVA

The Sta. Rita Hills AVA is significantly impacted by its proximity to the ocean (10 miles), consistent morning/evening fog, and steady afternoon winds. These cooling trends are not only perfectly suited to growing Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Grenache, and Syrah but also serve to prolong the growing season, allowing for heightened varietal flavor intensity. Additionally, the area's cool climate and vineyards' calcareous rock and sand help produce grapes with natural acidity and flavor balance.

ACCOLADES

94 points - Vinous *The 2020 Pinot Noir Lotus is a powerful, dense wine. Super-ripe red cherry fruit, kirsch, white pepper and exotic flowers all race across the palate. This is one of the more overt wines in the range. It's a style that works well. I would give this a bit of time to unwind. In 2020, the Lotus Pinot Noir is a blend of two barrels taken from Radian and Rancho La Vina.* -Antonio Galloni

93 points - Wine Advocate *The 2020 Pinot Noir Lotus is a barrel selection that's more powerfully styled than the other wines from Samsara. It has layered scents of tangerine peel, raspberry jam, mixed tea leaves and Old Spice with earthy accents. The medium-bodied palate segues from berry fruit to citrus and earth as it moves through the mouth. It has a finely chalky texture, seamless freshness and a long, nuanced finish.* 44 cases were made. - Erin Brooks