

2022 PINOT NOIR CUVÉE D'INSPRIRATION

STA. RITA HILLS, AVA SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, CA



WINEMAKER NOTES

On the nose the 2022 Pinot noir - Cuvée d'Inspiration drips with ripe fruit, cherry cordial and warm spice. This wine has great texture and weight, and is beautifully structured and built to age. Upfront, there are bright, ripe red fruits and on the lengthy finish, a fine grained tannin.

Vineyard composition: 51% Radian, 37% Spear, 6% Rancho La Viña, 6% Bentrock

WINEMAKING

Cases: 197

Appellation: Sta. Rita Hills
Varietal composition: 100% Pinot noir
Clonal selection: 667, 115, 777

% Whole cluster: 50%

Soil at site: Loam/DE/Clay/Chert/Sand

Barrels | Aging: 25% new French oak | 10

months

Alcohol: 12.9%

Brix: 22.5-27.7
pH at harvest: 3.22-3.47
Finished pH: 3.67
Finished TA: 6.3 g/L

Harvest date: 9/7/2022-9/12/2022

Bottling date: 8/18/2023 Release date: January 2025

2022 VINTAGE

2022 started off with a slightly later bud-break, and moderate weather through the spring and summer. Low yields across the board with all varietals and vineyards made the Labor-Day heat wave extra impactful and forced us to move quickly into harvest mode. Once the early ripening varietals were picked, the classic SB long growing season returned, and the final Rhone varietal grapes weren't harvested until late October. The 2022 wines retain their freshness and balance, with great flavor concentration and depth, and an extra kiss of sunshine.

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

93 points - Wine Enthusiast -Lovely aromas of raspberry jam and hibiscus punch are incredibly inviting on the nose of this bottling. The palate is both very floral yet also darker in nearly blue fruit flavors, with hints of acai picking up potpourri and herb elements by the finish. -Matt Kettman

91 points - Vinous - The 2022 Pinot Noir Cuvée d'Inspiration is an appellation-level blend of barrles. It offers more mid-palate juiciness than the straight Sta. Rita Hills bottling. Sweet red cherry, orange peel, spice and floral top notes all grace this understated, pliant Pinot from SAMsARA. -Antonio Gallioni