



WINEMAKER NOTES

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WINEMAKING

Cases:	48
Appellation:	Sta. Rita Hills
Varietal composition:	100% Syrah
% Whole cluster:	100%
Barrels Aging:	100% neutral French oak 22 months
Alcohol:	14.30%
Finished pH:	3.58
Finished TA:	6.5 g/L

2014 VINTAGE

Another year of drought, with intense heat leading into harvest. Despite the hot, dry conditions, the vines produced big yields in fruit. Expect wines with strong fruit characteristics, juiciness, and wonderful accessibility. These are wines driven by primary red fruit characteristics and a bright acid profile.

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

95 points - *The Wine Advocate* Medium to deep ruby, the 2014 Syrah OM has a singular nose of salted licorice, black olive, rosemary-crusted lamb, saline and even an orange peel hint with coffee bean, baked black cherries, blackberry preserves, warm blueberries, cocoa and peppercorn. Medium to full-bodied the palate is intense and concentrated with wonderful layers of fruit, savory tinges and spice, framed to plush, ripe tannins and great freshness, finishing very long and layered. Yowza! (Drinking Window: 2022-2040) - Erin Brooks

95 points - *Wine Enthusiast* This five-year-old wine is showing very well right now, indicative of how the cool climate style evolves into even more interesting flavors with time. Aromas of black-pepper sauce, charred lamb gristle, roasted chile peppers and black raspberry lead into a palate that's spicy with pepper, herbal with pine needles and eucalyptus and framed by underripe wild berries. -Matt Kettmann