



Wine Enthusiast Praises Longoria's New Releases

Reviews from the December 2016 Advance Buying Guide

2013 Longoria Fe Ciega Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills) **CELLAR SELECTION.** **93 Points**

Juicy hibiscus and pomegranate fruits converge with dried fennel stalks, purple flowers and a flinty smoke character on the fresh and inviting nose of this bottling from Rick Longoria's own vineyard. The energy that emerges on the sip is amazingly persistent, which guarantees long aging, presenting flavors of raspberry, pomegranate, dried sagebrush and black licorice. Drink 2017–2028. abv: 14.2%

2014 Longoria Bien Nacido Vineyard Block N Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley). **93 Points**

There's a compelling feral quality to this bottling by Rick Longoria. A carpaccio note on the nose carries through aromas of ripe berries, pine-forest underbrush and wet river stones. The palate also offers a raw-beef funk along with black olive, cherry tomato, sandalwood and reserved elderberry fruit. abv: 13.7%

2014 Longoria Sanford & Benedict Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills) **CELLAR SELECTION. 93 Points**

A strong black pepper character on the nose of this bottling by veteran Rick Longoria also works dark elderberries and a woody spice into the aromatic mix. It's tightly wound and very young on the palate, where blackberry paste, black plum and roasted fennel barely peek out. The firm structure will reveal much more spice and fruit in the future. Drink 2018–2034. abv: 13.9%

2014 Longoria La Encantada Vineyard Pinot Noir (Sta. Rita Hills). **92 Points**

Rick Longoria is all about restraint in his winemaking, and that shows on the shy aromas of this bottling that allow hints of black plum, wildfire, roasted meat and light rosemary to emerge. Tart plum and cranberry fruit pop on the palate, where a feral, gamy component is laced by forest floor and wild herbs. abv: 13.3%

