

ARTISTRY IN WINEMAKING SINCE 1982



TECHNICAL NOTES

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Vineyard source: Fe Ciega

Production: 140 cases

Alcohol by volume: 14.4%

pH: 3.65

Titratable acidity: 0.60 g/100ml

Cellaring potential: Seven to ten years

Bottle price: \$55.00

2019 PINOT NOIR

Sta. Rita Hills - Fe Ciega Vineyard

Our Estate Vineyard

Our estate vineyard, Fe Ciega, was planted in 1998, and then expanded in 2008 to a total of nine acres of Pinot Noir. The consistent high-quality wines that are produced from our vineyard have earned it a reputation as being one of the "grand cru" sites in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA.

The Harvest

The weather during the 2019 growing season and harvest was moderate and very similar to that of 2018. As a result, harvest began on September 14th and concluded on September 17th. The average sugar content was 24.6 Brix with an excellent balance of acidity.

Winemaking

The grapes were 100% destemmed and crushed into small open-top fermenters. After a three-day cold soak, the must was inoculated with yeast to start the fermentation. Following an average ten-day fermentation, the wine was pressed off, settled in tanks for several days and then racked to French oak barrels for aging. Only 18% of the barrels were new. After 14 months of barrel aging, a blend was created from the Pommard, Dijon 667 and Mt. Eden clones. The wine was not fined and only lightly filtered prior to being bottled in January 2021.

The Wine

The wine has a medium, dark ruby color. The aroma is a complex mixture of fragrant Asian spices and ripe cherries with a hint of cedar. On the palate the wine is medium-bodied with flavors of ripe cherries, pomegranates and a hint of orange rind in the finish. The finish provides for a satisfying pull on the palate from the combination of silky tannins and excellent acidity.

Food Pairing

This full-bodied and flavorful Pinot Noir will pair well with a wide variety of foods including lamb, duck and even filet mignon and top sirloin. I recommend decanting the wine 30-45 minutes prior to serving.

Rick Longoria, Winemaker
October 1, 2021