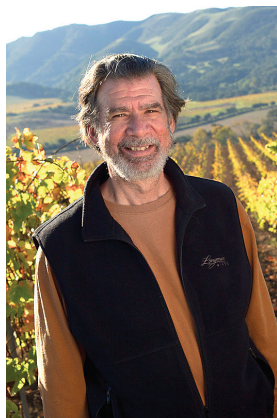


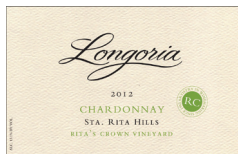
Longoria: A Santa Barbara Pioneer

RICK LONGORIA IS ONE of Santa Barbara's most influential and pioneering vintners. Serving as winemaker at J. Carey and later at The Gainey Vineyard, Rick and his wife, Diana, established their eponymous label in 1982, making small lots of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay—the two varietals that since have put Santa Barbara wine country on the map. By 1997 Rick was able to devote himself full time to Longoria, which moved into an industrial building in Lompoc, the first winery in what is now known as “the wine ghetto.” Longoria's estate vineyard, Fe Ceiga, was planted in 1998.

In March, I attended a Longoria tasting at Craft restaurant in Los Angeles, where recent releases showed beautifully. The tasting also included a few stunning older vintages of Longoria's Sta. Rita Hills—sourced Pinot Noir; which had grown even more lovely with bottle age.



Rick Longoria.



lie fermentation creates a smooth, balanced, and silky Chardonnay with bright fruit, racy acidity and crisp mouthfeel.

90 Longoria Wines 2014 Albariño, Clover Creek Vineyard, Santa Ynez Valley (\$25) An aromatic nose leads to juicy and crisp fruit flavors; well-defined and complex.

92 Longoria Wines 2012 Chardonnay, Rita's Crown Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$50) Malolactic and sur

lie fermentation creates a smooth,

88 Longoria Wines 2012 Tempranillo, Clover Creek Vineyard, Santa Ynez Valley (\$36)

Inspired by the wines of Rioja and Ribera del Duero. Spicy, smooth and balanced with charming vanilla tones and a fresh finish.

89 Longoria Wines 2013 Lovely Rita Pinot Noir, Sta. Rita Hills (\$32) A lively and balanced

cuvée of four clones Dijon 115 and 667, Mt. Eden and Pommard—from the estate Fe Ceiga Vineyard. Aromatic and fresh.



92 Longoria Wines 2012 Pinot Noir, La Encantada Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$50) The second

Longoria Pinot from Richard

Sanford's La Encantada Vineyard. Meaty and savory; fresh and balanced with great charm and length.

93 Longoria Wines 2013 Pinot Noir, Sanford & Benedict Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$50)

The first vintage of Sanford & Benedict Pinot from Longoria since 2006. Silky, juicy, racy and crisp; tangy, fresh and lifted.

89 Longoria Wines 2013 Pinot Noir, Bien Nacido Vineyard, Block N, Santa Maria Valley (\$50) From the most coveted block of Pinot in the

celebrated Bien Nacido Vineyard, planted to the heritage Martini clone. Smooth and round with clean, fresh varietal flavors; dense, balanced, and long.

92 Longoria Wines 2012 Pinot Noir, Fe Ciega Vineyard, Sta. Rita Hills (\$55) From Longoria's own estate vineyard. Deep ruby color; tangy, dense and rich with nice depth of ripe cherry and black raspberry.