

2021 STA, RITA HILLS PINOT NOIR SANFORD AND BENEDICT VINEYARD

Since our founding in 1975, we have been dedicated ourselves to crafting wines that showcase the purity, elegance and aging potential that can be achieved from the finest vineyards on the Central Coast. Originally planted in 1971, Sanford and Benedict was the first vineyard planted in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA. With a unique location that draws cool air and fog off the nearby Pacific Ocean and has ideal clay loam soils, this famed vineyard produces a beautifully structured Pinot Noir with supple tannins, savory spice and flowing layers of raspberry and black cherry.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2021 growing season began with below-average winter rainfall followed by moderate spring temperatures, with budbreak occurring at varied times throughout the Central Coast. The temperate weather continued into early summer, which ensured abundant hangtime and one of the latest Central Coast harvests on record. The resulting wines show pin-point balance with lovely aromas, excellent energy and acidity, and pure sophisticated flavors.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Originally planted in 1971, this cool, marine-influenced vineyard in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA produced a beautifully structured Pinot Noir with alluring aromas of juicy blackberry, cherry, and savory sandalwood. On the palate, silky tannins and hints of spice add depth and nuance to flowing layers of cherry, black raspberry, and roasted coffee beans as they build to a long, resonant finish.

WINEMAKING

APPELLATION Sta. Rita Hills

VINEYARD Sanford and Benedict Vineyard

VARIETAL COMPOSITION 100% Pinot Noir

OAK PROFILE & AGING Aged 15 months in 100% French oak

30% new, 70% neutral

ALCOHOL 14.5%

PH 3.49

ACIDITY 0.56 g/100 ml

FERMENTATION Open top fermentation with indigenous yeast

