

Foley  
2015  
PINOT NOIR  
STA. RITA HILLS  
JA RANCH

*The Brand Series honors the relatives of vintner Bill Foley who settled the Texas Panhandle in the 1840s as ranchers, cattlemen and Texas Rangers. These wines combine noteworthy barrels from superior sites within our estate vineyards to unveil a unique facet or interpretation of a designated variety.*

**VINEYARD**

There's only one way to describe the Rancho Santa Rosa Vineyard: *serene*. Located in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA of Santa Barbara County, these stunning hillsides feature vines that climb from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level. The soils are marine-based and the weather is consistently cool thanks to moist ocean breezes that sweep the property daily. The vineyard is farmed with the painstaking care and attention usually associated with much smaller properties. In fact, this vineyard was originally conceived as a series of individual micro-vineyards delineated by soil, exposure, elevation, grade, rootstock and clone.

**VINTAGE**

The 2015 vintage was early and light yielding fruit with exceptional flavor concentration. The vines experienced no hard dormancy and above average temperatures in February resulting in an early bud break, flowering and fruit set. The drought caused the vines to struggle and produce smaller berry size and overall cluster size which resulted in high quality wines that are rich, complex and intense in character. Harvest occurred from August 19 - October 1, 2015.

**WINEMAKING**

We harvest our grapes based on the ripeness of the tannins. For Pinot Noir this usually occurs between 24.5-27.0 Brix with the 2015 coming in at an even 25.0. The clusters were then gently de-stemmed with no crushing. The must was cold-soaked in open-top fermenters for four days. Each tank was manually punched down throughout maceration. Upon completion of primary fermentation and maceration, the free-run wine was transferred to tank for settling. Finally, the individual lots were racked to barrels and aged for 18 months in 30% new French oak prior to blending and bottling.

**TASTING**

This 2015 JA Ranch Pinot Noir is a light ruby and violet color displaying fragrant aromas of cherry spice, cola, and cedar. Flavors of Morello cherries and raspberries fill the mouth of this inherently earthy Pinot Noir. A lively acidity, polished tannins and lingering impressions of tea leaves and cinnamon round out the finish. Pair with a creamy mushroom and herbed risotto.

<b>APPELLATION</b>	STA. RITA HILLS
<b>VINEYARD</b>	RANCHO SANTA ROSA EAST
<b>COMPOSITION</b>	100% PINOT NOIR
<b>COOPERAGE</b>	30% NEW FRENCH OAK; WORLD COOPERAGE & BOUTES
<b>AGING</b>	18 MONTHS
<b>ALCOHOL</b>	14.1%
<b>TA</b>	7.1 G/L
<b>PH</b>	3.35
<b>BOTTLING DATE</b>	APRIL 11, 2017
<b>PRODUCTION</b>	685 CASES

