

Foley
2015
PINOT NOIR
STA. RITA HILLS
T ANCHOR 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 vintage coming in at an even 25.0. The clusters were then gently destemmed 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 prior to blending and bottling.

TASTING

This 2015 T Anchor Ranch Pinot Noir is made in a fruit forward style with dominant juicy black fruit tones indicative of the Pommard clone. Aromas of fresh blackberry and black cherry dominate with a hint of sweet anise. The palate has great texture which supports the ripe fruit notes leading into charred espresso beans on the finish. This is the perfect pairing wine for Thanksgiving dinner.

APPELLATION	STA. RITA HILLS
VINEYARD	RANCHO SANTA ROSA EAST
COMPOSITION	100% PINOT NOIR
COOPERAGE	40% NEW FRENCH OAK; BOUTES & TW BOSWELL
AGING	18 MONTHS
ALCOHOL	14.3%
TA	6.8 G/L
PH	3.49
BOTTLING DATE	APRIL 6, 2017
PRODUCTION	691 CASES

