



LINCOURT

Willie Mae
2017 PINOT NOIR

Overview

When Bill Foley founded Lincourt in 1996, the Sta. Rita Hills region of Santa Barbara county was largely undiscovered. Today it is one of California's most coveted, cool-climate, viticultural regions. Lincourt's wines are produced entirely from our two estate vineyards within the AVA. They are rolling hillside sites that offer 'limiting' soils, large diurnal temperature swings and long growing seasons. Our wines are rich, structured, fruit forward and regionally exact.

Sustainability

At Lincourt, we believe that a vibrant, living environment has a positive effect on the health of the vines and the character and quality of the wines. To ensure the vitality of our land and the authenticity of our wines, we use sustainable methods in all of our farming, winemaking and business practices.

Vintage

The 2017 vintage is one I will never forget. It was a year of growth and challenges hurled at us by mother nature. The growing season started off bold with early bud break followed by a few sporadic frost events. Overall, the growing season temps were moderate to cool rendering moderate and uniform berry set. As harvest approached, Mother Nature delivered extremely warm temperatures which cued the start of harvest on August 31. Harvest wrapped up October 17 resulting in moderate yields and full flavor development.

Vineyards & Winemaking

As part of the original Spanish Land Grant, Rancho Santa Rosa is one of Santa Barbara's most historic properties. This beautiful south-facing hillside climbs from 500 to 1,000 feet above sea level. This wine features Pinot Noir clone 115. Following harvest, the fruit was cold soaked for four days and then fermented in open tops with regular punch downs to extract maximum color and flavor. It was aged in 100% French oak barrels (30% new) for 18 months.

Tasting Notes

Named for Proprietor Bill Foley's aunt, our 2016 Willie Mae Pinot Noir is textbook cool-climate Pinot. Concentrated aromatics of dried cranberries and hibiscus tea set a rustic perception. On the palate, this wine possesses elegant tannin that lingers with soft French oak notes of charred vanilla bean with fruit accents of dried strawberries and black and white pepper.

APPELLATION	Sta. Rita Hills
VINEYARD	Rancho Santa Rosa East
HARVEST DATE	August 31 - October 16, 2017
COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
BARREL AGING	16 months in French oak, 30% new
ALCOHOL	14.3%
TA	6.4 g/L
pH	3.59
BOTTLING DATE	March 23, 2018
PRODUCTION	507 cases