



# LINCOURT

*Sta. Rita Hills*

## 2018 RANCHO SANTA ROSA PINOT NOIR

### OVERVIEW

When Proprietor 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 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 2018 vintage kicked off with an extremely unusual heat spike in February that sent the vines into a rapid, early start but was quickly followed by a cold spell. Frost events had longer duration than prior years and the season continued its cold to moderate temperature pattern through May. The first pop of real heat finally arrived mid-June and temperatures remained moderate the rest of the growing season allowing the grapes to gradually ripen. We started picking 3 weeks later than typical but the rich flavor profiles were worth the wait.

### VINEYARDS & WINEMAKING

The fruit for our Pinot Noir came from our estate Rancho Santa Rosa Vineyard in the Sta. Rita Hills AVA. It was hand-harvested and sorted in the vineyard prior to arrival at the winery. The clusters were then carefully destemmed to keep the berries intact. Additional hand sorting removed any jack stems before the fruit was transferred to small, stainless steel, open-top fermenters. The juice and skins were cold-soaked for four days prior to fermentation and then gently punched down for several days. After primary fermentation was complete, the new wine was drained and the skins were gently pressed.

### TASTING NOTES

Our Rancho Santa Rosa Pinot Noir embodies the essence of the cool climate Sta. Rita Hills. Our 2018 opens with aromas of ripe fruit, dark boysenberry, pomegranate and ribbons of cherry. On the palate this pinot noir offers classic notes of black pepper, boysenberry, plum and dark cherry with a soft finish of dark cacao and pomegranate acidity. With moderate tannins, balanced acidity and lush fruit on the finish, this wine is perfect alongside cedar plank grilled salmon, pork tenderloin or BBQ pork ribs.

APPELLATION	Sta. Rita Hills
VINEYARD	Rancho Santa Rosa West and East
HARVEST DATE	September 24 - November 2, 2018
COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
ALCOHOL	13.9%
TA	5.9 g/L
pH	3.49
BOTTLING DATE	July 29, 2019
PRODUCTION	5,026 cases