



BARDEN



Sta. Rita Hills

2018 Pinot Noir

BARDEN focuses exclusively on the terroir of the Sta. Rita Hills sourcing fruit from top vineyards in the appellation, showcasing the region's classic typicity for Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Syrah. With its diverse, marine-based soils and refrigerated-sunlight climate, the Sta. Rita Hills provides a perfect place for Doug "Barden" Margerum to leverage his years of food and wine experience to make limited amounts of world-class, cuisine-friendly and age-worthy wines. The BARDEN name's English meaning is "Lives near the boar's den..." Thus the image of a wild boar, which is pervasive in our area's vineyards.

**Vineyard Region:** Sta. Rita Hills – La Encantada Vineyard (28%), Sanford & Benedict Vineyard (10%), John Sebastiano Vineyard (18%), Radian Vineyard (9%), Donnachadh (16%), Spear (19%) – a fourteen barrel selection.

**Vintage Conditions:** 2018 was a "normal" vintage allowing us to have a longer picking season, as the fall days became cooler and the days shorter ripening evolved slowly. Our first grapes ripened in early to mid-September and the last varietals hung on vines until early November. With August start dates the harvest becomes very compacted as the heat of summer ripens the grapes quicker. It was a mellow growing season and the lack of any dramatic weather kept the vines healthy and happy with no signs of yellowing leaves and vines shutting down. Mild weather allows for more hang time which means the grapes reach that perfect balance of acidity and brix and develop more complex flavors.

**Harvest Dates:** August 23<sup>rd</sup> – September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018

**Winemaking:** The fruit was all hand sorted, with a percentage of whole cluster, a 7-day cold soak and a combination of natural (wild) fermentation and Burgundian yeast isolates. Only free-run wine used, 10 month maturation on full lees, bottled un-fined and unfiltered.

**Maturation:** This wine was matured for 10 months in 43% new French oak barriques, 12% one-year old French oak barriques and 45% two-year-old barriques from Tonnellerie François Frères, Ermitage, and Sirugue.

**Wine Analysis:** Alcohol 13.5%, pH 3.45, and TA 6.1 g/L.

**Production:** 538 six packs

**Reviews:** Antonio Galloni- 93 Points August, 2020

*Winemaker Comments:*

**Color** Beautiful light maroon and subtle blood red hues.

**Aroma** Very complex briar patch plum fruit aromas of cranberry, mushrooms and mulberries complemented with subtle wood aromatics of vanilla, toast, and lovely red fruits.

**Palate** Bright and lean on the attack with long lasting rich fruit impressions with earthy structure, dried roses, candied fruit, spice, cocoa and Bing cherries

**Peak Drinking** Now – and with up to twenty years of bottle age from vintage.

MARGERUM WINE COMPANY

59 Industrial Way, Buellton, California 93427

info@margerumwines.com • www.bardenwines.com • 805.686.8500