



BARDEN



Sta. Rita Hills

2019 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 forty 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 (26%), Sanford & Benedict Vineyard (12%), John Sebastiano Vineyard (21%), Donnachadh (13%), Spear (12%) with the rest coming from Radian.

Vintage Conditions: 2019 was an outstanding vintage. It was a very cold winter and a very mild spring and summer leading to slow maturation and long hang times for increased complexities. Harvest was much later in the summer which allows us to harvest under kinder cooler conditions – there were essentially no heat spikes which tend to cause drama and we have a no drama policy.

Harvest Dates: August 20th – September 21st, 2019

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 13.7%, pH 3.51, and TA 6.2 g/L.

Production: 182 cases

Reviews: Antonio Galloni- 93 Points

Winemaker Comments

Color: Beautiful saturated dark crimson color.

Aroma: Complex array of cranberry, pomegranate, and mulberries mix with red tropical flowers and earthy elements of mushrooms, dried herbs and sandalwood. The wine has a lovely complement of wood aromas of vanilla and toast.

Palate: Concentrated fruit impressions with great architecture and mouthfeel. Fruit compote and dried herbs mix with a medley of earthy notes of leaf litter, dried roses, red cand, spice, cocoa and cherries.

Peak Drinking: Now for twenty plus years.