

Mendelson



Mendelson 2016 Pinot Noir

SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS

the wine

Our 2016 Pinot Noir is from the Doctor's Vineyard in the Santa Lucia Highlands appellation, located on the east side of the Santa Lucia Mountain Range. Doctor's Vineyard is well-drained, with old alluvial soils on the lower slopes and considerable rock on the upper slopes. The combination of high altitude and the cooling influence of the ocean breezes make it a perfect region for growing Pinot Noir with lots of character and intensity. In addition, the vineyard was planted to multiple Pinot Noir clones, which offer a wonderful array of aromas and textures.

The winemaking process helps to accentuate the classic aromas and flavors of the special terroir while adding complexity to the finished wine. The Pinot Noir grapes, which in 2016 had great color, sugar-acid balance, and flavors, are de-stemmed and sorted by hand. They are then placed into open top fermenters and punched down manually until fermentation is complete. The free run juice is raked into French oak barrels where the wine ages for 13 months before bottling.

Our 2016 Pinot Noir has a dark garnet color. The red fruit aromas burst forth from the glass - red cherry, strawberry, and red currant. The nose is perhaps the most forward and gracious of any Santa Lucia Pinot Noir we have made, and that goes back to 2001. On the palate, the wine is juicy and full-bodied but soft enough to drink straight away. The flavors are of red and black fruits, including cherry and blackberry, with layers of sage and toasty oak.

This is a classic Doctor's Vineyard wine, with both elegance and power, good acidity, and a long finish. Like all fine wines, it becomes more expressive over time in the glass. With its fine structure, full depth, and soft tannins, our 2016 Pinot Noir will benefit from aging for 5 - 8 years if you can hold onto it for that long.

This classy, polished, and seductive wine is a fitting tribute to the Santa Lucia Highlands' 25th anniversary. The appellation was created in 1991.

technical data

APPELLATION | Santa Lucia Highlands

VINEYARD | Doctor's Vineyard

RELEASE DATE | April 1, 2018

VARIETAL COMPOSITION | 100% Pinot Noir

ALCOHOL | 14.5%

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE | \$45