



E S T A T E S E R I E S



2016 PINOT NOIR
ESTATE

<i>Appellation</i>	SANTA CLARA VALLEY
<i>Vineyard</i>	SARAH'S ESTATE
<i>Growers</i>	TIM SLATER
<i>Clones</i>	667, 777, 115, "SAMSONITE CHAMBERTIN"
<i>Winemaker</i>	TIM SLATER
<i>Alcohol</i>	14.2%
<i>Cooperage</i>	FRENCH OAK 25% NEW, 11 MONTHS
<i>Production</i>	385 CASES

Our "home grown" S.V. Estate Pinot Noir is a true labor of love. The vines are mere steps from the winery and tasting room. Having complete, direct "dirt to bottle" quality control insures this limited release is a special one. Our location in the the cool climate "Mt. Madonna" district of the southern Santa Cruz Mountains provides superior growing conditions for top-flight Pinot Noir.

The drought finally ended in California in 2016. Yields for the growing season were larger than "normal." We were kept busy trimming back excessive growth after years of very little rain. The Pinot Noir we picked at the home ranch in early September that year was of very good quality, with near perfect flavors

After a cold soak, fermentation began using yeast RC212 in small, open top bins. Manual punchdowns of the cap occurred twice daily prior to the wine being pressed and "barreled down" for eleven months aging in small French oak cooperage, twenty-five percent of which was new wood. The wine was bottled in August 2017.

The Santa Clara Valley is a historic winegrowing district, perhaps better known for heavier reds. But our Sarah's Vineyard site nestled in the foothills, a few miles from Monterey Bay, is a perfect spot for Pinot. Delicate. Structured. Lush fruit and bright acidity. This is Pinot Noir, "Sarah's style."

With its ripe yet reserved cherry / berry component and amazing nose and palate full of spice box and vanillin-oak, this wine begs to be paired with ripe cheeses, pancetta-wrapped salmon, duck confit, or almost any variety of meats off the grill. Delicious now, the '16 S.V. "Estate" Pinot Noir has the balance and tannins to pay handsome dividends if carefully cellared for four to five years.