



CORNERSTONE

CELLARS • NAPA VALLEY

2016 SANTA RITA HILLS PINOT NOIR

APPELLATION:

Santa Rita Hills, Santa Barbara County

VINEYARD:

Rita's Crown Vineyard is nestled in the sunny southwest facing hillsides at elevation on the North-east east/west ridge not 20 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Santa Rita Hills, a small AVA nestled within one of the coolest growing regions on the Pacific seaboard is home to some of California's best-loved Pinot Noirs.

WINEMAKING:

Kari Auringer's passion for Pinot Noir is only rivaled by her quest for unique terroirs that have a sense of place: Typically she looks for ones that render a more lifted aromatic profile due to complex soil minerality and grapes achieving phenolic ripeness, or long hangtime. Completely destemmed Dijon Clone 828, cold soaked and punched down 3 times daily. Aged for 16 months 60% New French oak Barrels, 40% neutral oak Gentle handling rendered 250 bottled on January 2018.

PROFILE:

The fruit focused core, depth and complexity is attributed to the morning fog, sunny days and cooling coastal breezes. The hillsides are covered with white chalky soils that allow for drainage, but also encourage a hint of minerality in the flavor and texture. Deep red cherry note prevail in the aromas followed by tea leaves and gun flint.