

2021 DIERBERG PINOT NOIR

Sta. Rita Hills

ALCOHOL
14.2%

AGED
10 months

OAK
90% Neutral Feudre and
10% new French

HARVESTED
September 2021

BOTTLED
June 2022

Cellar Life
5-10 years

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VINTAGE NOTES

In Santa Barbara, the 2021 vintage provided a good growing season with ideal ripening weather. Tyler Thomas, winemaker at Dierberg Vineyard, noted cool mornings, ample fog, and no significant heat events. The vintage progressed smoothly with yields matching historical averages. Wines are showing excellent flavor depth, lower alcohol levels, and higher acidity. "We are very excited about the ability to promote energy in wines with terrific depth and generosity," says Thomas.

The estate fruit from this segment of the vineyard requires less ageing than the blocks used for our grey label Drum Pinot, particularly in the family's large European foudre which help to maintain acidity while the wine develops body. Aging just a small portion in new French oak allowed for some spice complexity, but we find that the fruit from this portion of the vineyard ads plenty of spice and structure on its own.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Weather during the ripening period was about as ideal as you could ask for in Santa Barbara County in 2021, with little-to-no heat events. The fog was ample in the mornings which helped push our harvest in the Sta. Rita Hills out a couple of weeks and I think contributed to great depth while we were able to maintain acidity. The Pinot Noir from our Drum Canyon Vineyard in particular seems to display the qualities of depth and generosity that we look for from Sta. Rita Hills while maintaining good drive and tension that is the distinctive characteristic of Dierberg Pinot Noir.

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TASTING NOTES

"Black cherries, black raspberries, leafy herbs, and sappy, floral nuances all emerge from the 2021 Pinot Noir Dierberg Vineyard, a pure, medium-bodied, beautifully textured Pinot Noir displaying a terrific, salty character on the finish that is **classic Sta. Rita Hills**. This is the second vintage of this cuvée, which comes from sandier soils at the base of the Drum Canyon slope, and the estate thinks of this as their **Premier Cru release**."--Jeb Dunnuck, 8/30/23



92 Points Jeb
Dunnuck

