



MORGAN

CRAFTING HIGHLANDS' HISTORY



2013 GARYS' VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

<i>appellation:</i>	SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS
<i>vineyard:</i>	GARYS' VINEYARD
<i>clones:</i>	PISONI
<i>soils:</i>	ARROYO SECO & CHUALAR LOAM
<i>climate:</i>	VERY COOL, REGION I (UCD)
<i>alcohol:</i>	13.8%
<i>acidity:</i>	6.2 G/L
<i>ph:</i>	3.39
<i>cooperage:</i>	10 MONTHS IN 100% FRENCH OAK
<i>production:</i>	118 CASES
<i>retail price:</i>	\$58.00



THE GRAPE

Pinot Noir demands the most from winegrower and vintner. Here, a great vineyard and classic winemaking are perfectly matched.

THE PLACE

There are two Garys, that's why the vineyard is called "Garys' " and not "Gary's". Gary Francioni and Gary Pisoni went to high-school together and have teamed up in this joint-venture vineyard to grow killer Pinot in the Santa Lucia Highlands. Garys' Vineyard is situated in the Santa Lucia Highlands, 4 miles south of our own Double L property, it's in a slightly cooler area, which promotes later ripening and fresher acidity levels. Garys' 50 acres, established in 1997, is planted to the "Pisoni" clone of Pinot Noir. This estate has gained a reputation for producing some of California's most sought after Pinots.

THE WINE

The 2013 growing season was a fairly textbook one throughout the Santa Lucia Highlands. Winter storms gave way to a warm spring and summer, with trademark afternoon winds off the Bay. With very few weather events, the fruit was allowed to develop slowly. Mildew pressure was at a minimum, insuring "clean," high quality fruit. The Pinot Noir grapes from the Garys' Vineyard displayed full phenolic ripeness, with good sugar and acid balance.

The grapes were sorted in the vineyard and again at the winery before being destemmed. Whole berry fermentation was started with native yeasts in small open top tanks. The cap was manually punched down for optimum extraction and structure with soft tannins. The wine was transferred to a combination of medium and medium-plus toast Burgundy barrels, 40% new, for malo-lactic fermentation and 10 months of aging.

Dan Lee and Gianni Abate have fashioned a rare Pinot demonstrating classic Garys' structure and elegance. The nose of coffee cake, dark chocolate, and rose petals is echoed on the palate and joined by plum, black licorice, and sage.