



MORGAN

CRAFTING HIGHLANDS' HISTORY



2015 ROSELLA'S VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

<i>appellation:</i>	SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS
<i>vineyard:</i>	ROSELLA'S
<i>rootstock:</i>	110-14, SO4, 5C
<i>clones:</i>	PISONI & DIJON 777
<i>soils:</i>	ARROYO SECO & SANDY LOAM
<i>climate:</i>	VERY COOL, REGION I (UCD)
<i>alcohol:</i>	14.4%
<i>acidity:</i>	6.8 G/L
<i>pb:</i>	3-43
<i>cooperage:</i>	10 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK; 50% NEW
<i>production:</i>	62 CASES
<i>retail price:</i>	\$64.00

THE GRAPE

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

THE PLACE

Rosella's Vineyard is among the most famed estates in the Santa Lucia Highlands. Planted by Gary Francioni and his wife Rosella, their conscientious winegrowing and "Premier Cru" location yield top-flight Pinot Noir.

THE WINE

For years we have valued the consistent quality of Rosella's Vineyard Pinot Noir. Located three miles south of our own Double L estate, Rosella's is one of the top Pinot Noir vineyards in California. Planted in '96 to several Dijon clones as well as the famed "Pisoni" clone, Rosella's benefits from the eastern exposure of its Santa Lucia Highlands benchland location. Fog and cooling breezes from the Monterey Bay combined with well-drained alluvial soils make-up Rosella's famed terroir.

The 2015 growing season saw a continuation of the drought in California. The lower than normal rainfall totals and dry winter led to early budbreak. The vineyard's proximity to the Monterey Bay mitigated the few heat events, allowing for a fairly normal, gentle, long ripening period. Yields were very low, and fruit quality from the 2015 vintage was uniformly excellent.

THE WINE

The grapes were completely destemmed after hand sorting. Native yeasts began the whole berry fermentation in open top tanks. Manual punch downs provided for supple texture and soft tannins. The wine was transferred to a combination of medium and medium-plus toast Burgundy barrels, 50% new, for malo-lactic fermentation and 10 months of aging.

Deep and concentrated, this limited production Pinot Noir showcases aromas of cherry, sweet pomegranate, black tea, and sea spray with flavors of cherry cola and raspberry. Well integrated, layered tannins suggest this wine will age very well. The '15 Rosella's Pinot Noir will prove a perfect match for rib roast, lamb chops or just about anything off the grill.