



MORGAN

CRAFTING HIGHLANDS' HISTORY



2013 DOUBLE L PINOT NOIR CLONE 777

<i>appellation:</i>	SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS
<i>vineyard:</i>	DOUBLE L
<i>clones:</i>	777
<i>soils:</i>	ARROYO SECO & CHUALAR LOAM
<i>climate:</i>	VERY COOL, REGION I (UCD)
<i>alcohol:</i>	14.2%
<i>acidity:</i>	6.1 G/L
<i>ph:</i>	3.47
<i>cooperage:</i>	10 MONTHS IN 100% BURGUNDY BARRELS
<i>production:</i>	73 CASES
<i>retail price:</i>	\$58.00

THE GRAPE

"777" is one of the so-called "Dijon clones." Originally from Morey St. Denis in the Cote d'Or, it is at the heart of some of Burgundy's greatest reds. This clone's typically smaller grape size and bunch weights make for intensity in both the fruit flavors and aromatics. Great color, forward fruit and spice, and a soft, elegant structure are hallmarks of 777.

THE PLACE

The Double L Vineyard's location in the Northern end of the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA affords Morgan the chance to grow the finest cool climate wine grapes. Planted on Northeast facing terraces overlooking the Salinas River Valley, the North-South vineyard row orientation provides optimum sun exposure and access to the strong afternoon breezes. The winds moderate the afternoon temperature, thickening the grape skins and concentrating flavors. The vineyard is the first in the Santa Lucia Highlands to achieve both organic and sustainable certifications.

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 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.

This wine shows seductive aromas of blackberry, spice, and smokey oak; the lush palate of berry / plum and cranberry is backed by hints of raspberry, vanilla, minerals, and medium-weight, elegant tannins.