



MORGAN

CRAFTING HIGHLANDS' HISTORY



2017 DOUBLE L PINOT NOIR POMMARD 5

<i>appellation:</i>	SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS
<i>vineyard:</i>	DOUBLE L
<i>clones:</i>	POMMARD 5
<i>soils:</i>	CLAYEY CHUALAR LOAM (GRANITIC)
<i>climate:</i>	VERY COOL, REGION I (UCD)
<i>alcohol:</i>	14.0%
<i>acidity:</i>	6.90 G/L
<i>ph:</i>	3.33
<i>cooperage:</i>	11 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK; 45% NEW
<i>production:</i>	96 CASES
<i>retail price:</i>	\$65.00



THE GRAPE

“Pommard 5” is the most widely planted Pinot Noir clone in Oregon. Given a cool climate like Oregon or the Santa Lucia Highlands, it typically displays a dark berry profile with hints of spice, currant, and plum. It ripens fairly late in the season, with high yields if not carefully managed. Handled properly, it makes wines of structure and depth.

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 afternoon temperature, thickening the grape skins and concentrating flavors. The vineyard is the first in the SLH to achieve both organic and sustainable certifications.

The 2017 vintage commenced with a refreshingly wet winter with rainfall totals 40% above average, flushing vineyard soils of built up salts, and promoting healthy root and cover crop growth in the early season. Temperatures were average through August, though September saw three heat waves, resulting in wines with a rich fruit core, underlaid by an elegance from the early and mid-season cool temperatures.

THE WINE

The grapes were completely destemmed after hand sorting. Manual punch downs provided supple texture and soft tannins. The wine was transferred to a combination of medium and medium-plus toast French oak barrels, 45% new, for malo-lactic fermentation and 11 months of aging.

This wine shows seductive aromas of raspberry hard candy, eucalyptus, and cedar. The palate shows intense red fruit and smoky spices.