



MORGAN

CRAFTING HIGHLANDS' HISTORY



2018 GARYS' VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <i>appellation:</i> | SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS |
| <i>vineyard:</i> | GARYS' VINEYARD |
| <i>clones:</i> | PISONI |
| <i>soils:</i> | ARROYO SECO SANDY LOAM (GRANITIC) |
| <i>climate:</i> | VERY COOL, REGION I (UCD) |
| <i>alcohol:</i> | 14.0% |
| <i>acidity:</i> | 6.2 G/L |
| <i>ph:</i> | 3.51 |
| <i>cooperage:</i> | 10 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK; 40% NEW |
| <i>production:</i> | 98 CASES |
| <i>retail price:</i> | \$65.00 |

THE GRAPE

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

THE PLACE

Gary Francioni and Gary Pisoni went to high school together and have teamed up in this joint-venture vineyard to grow great Pinot in the Santa Lucia Highlands. Garys' Vineyard is situated four miles south of our own Double L property. The 50 acre vineyard was planted in '97 to the "Pisoni" clone of Pinot Noir, and has subsequently gained a reputation for producing some of California's most sought after wines.

The vintage commenced with precipitation much below average, though reservoirs remained full through the season after a very wet 2017. January and February were warm, resulting in premature budbreak in select parcels, increasing worries of frost as nighttime temperatures dipped below freezing on February 23rd and 24th. Luckily, no harm was done, and the following months saw temperatures at, and often below, seasonal averages. 2018 was a classically cool growing season in Monterey - an epic year for Morgan's cool climate varietals.

THE WINE

The grapes were completely destemmed after hand sorting, and fermented with native yeast in open top tanks. Manual punch downs provided supple texture and 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 Sam Smith have fashioned a rare Pinot, demonstrating classic Garys' structure and elegance. The nose of blackberry, snickerdoodle cookie, and saffras are echoed on the palate by flavors of cola with red and black fruits.