



# 2018 PINOT NOIR

## FE CIEGA

### STA. RITA HILLS

Fe Ciega is always our most dark and impactful Pinot Noir. The fruit demands kid gloves with extraction, as we've learned that if we're not careful this Pinot can almost take on the power of Syrah. Compared to the sandier stretches of Sta Rita Hills to the North, the richer clay loam at Fe Ciega lends a more savory, spicy and animal profile to Pinot Noir.

That's for sure the case with this 2018 bottling. The 2018 vintage was absolutely benevolent, with a later start, cool weather throughout, and perfectly healthy fruit at harvest. It was just the kind of year for Fe Ciega to manifest its great depth and wildness, while remaining fresh and lively on the palate.

This Pinot Noir is just so aromatically complete and layered. There's a luscious concentration of red berries and cherries in the middle, with wafts of purple flowers and fresh herbs in the high layers. Deep tones come from layers of leather, spices and sphagnum moss. It hits the palate with a glossy wash of dark red fruits, then brightens up into raspberry and rhubarb before streaks of iron and star anise invigorate the finish. This beauty will be singing in a decade, but it's already delicious now.

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**BLEND** 100% Pinot Noir

**VINEYARD** Fe Ciega

**LOCATION** Sta. Rita Hills

**ALCOHOL** 13.0%

**VINIFICATION** Open top fermentation with 8% whole clusters

**BARREL AGING** 15 Months in French oak barrels, 29% new

**TOTAL PRODUCTION** 161 Cases

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#### PRESS REVIEWS

##### Jeb Dunnuck

"The 2018 Pinot Noir Fe Ciega Vineyard is another Burgundian-styled beauty that has a touch of reduction in its violets, crushed stone, black cherry, and raspberry aromas and flavors. As with all of Adam's wines, it's beautiful on the palate and has a seamless, elegant texture, light tannins, good acidity, and the balance to keep for 10-12 years or more." **94+ Points**

##### Antonio Galloni's Vinous

"The 2018 Pinot Noir Fe Ciega Vineyard is another of the highlights in this range. Dark blue/purplish fruit, lavender, mint, sage and licorice present an alluring expression of the Sta. Rita Hills. Like so many wines in this range, the 2018 is deep and flavorful, yet not at all heavy. Even so, there is a resonance to the Fe Ciega that is impossible to miss. The tannins just need a bit of time to soften." **93 Points**

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