



# 2021 PINOT NOIR FE CIEGA, 'DISCÍPULO'

## STA. RITA HILLS

### TASTING NOTE:

Discípulo showcases that intersection of fruity radiance and mouthwatering freshness which is unique to Pinot Noir from the Sta. Rita Hills. It's all about capturing the fruit so that it's center-stage, yet propulsively bright and sculpted by mineral cut. To that end, this wine is composed solely of the Dijon clones we have planted here, which were refined to produce riper flavors in marginal climates.

The wine shows a brilliant ruby red translucence, and the aromatics are effusive with dewy blossoms and sweet red fruits. Concentrated scents of raspberry coulis and strawberry are laced with bergamot and black tea, then you find rose, sea salt and tarragon in the high layers. The palate gives satiny cherry and raspberry up front, then mushroomy savor builds while spicy tannin plays with a supple and salivating salinity.

### VINTAGE & WINEMAKING:

This 2021 bottling is our first of Discípulo, which is one expression of our terroir at Fe Ciega Vineyard. This cuvee is crafted around capturing the profound fruit that the Sta. Rita Hills offers, while the Devoto cuvee speaks to the more earthy, savory potential of the region.

The Dijon clones that comprise this cuvee, 115 and 667, were entirely destemmed to preserve this wine's purity of fruit. We immediately inoculated with our house native yeast (cultured from grapes picked during sampling), then pumped the wine over twice daily until it was dry. We left it on the skins for a few more days for further extraction.

The wine aged on fine lees in French oak barrels (27% new) for 11 months. At that point the wine had terrific vibrancy and supple textures that we loved, so we bottled it just a bit early to help accentuate the differences between this wine and the other Fe Ciega cuvees.

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**BLEND** 100% Pinot Noir - 64% Clone 667, 36% Clone 115

**VINEYARDS** Fe Ciega

**AVA** Sta. Rita Hills

**ALCOHOL** 13.0%

**VINIFICATION** fermented with native yeast using 30% whole-clusters

**BARREL AGING** 11 months in French oak barrels, 28% new

**TOTAL PRODUCTION** 240 Cases

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