



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:

2021 was a dream vintage for us, particularly with Pinot Noir. It finished ripening with perfectly cool, breezy and dry conditions. All four clones were harvested relatively late, in the last days of September, with just perfect numbers on brix and pH—an auspicious outcome for our premier vintage of fully hands-on farming at Fe Ciega.

The Dijon clones that comprise this cuvee, 115 and 667, were loaded into open-top tanks with 17% whole clusters at the bottom. 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 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.

BLEND 100% Pinot Noir, clones 115 and 667

VINEYARDS Fe Ciega

AVA Sta. Rita Hills

ALCOHOL 13.0%

VINIFICATION open-top fermentation with 17% whole-clusters

BARREL AGING 11 months in French Oak barrels, 27% new

TOTAL PRODUCTION 240 Cases (11 barrels made)

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