

◆ 2013 SANFORD & BENEDICT VINEYARD

Pinot Noir | Sta. Rita Hills

Having first visited the Sanford & Benedict Winery in early 2003, it was clear this was a site with a pedigree that stood out amongst the great Pinot vineyards in California. Tasting the wines from previous vintages and seeing the attention to detail paid in farming it was all too clear this was a site that could produce wines of distinction. It was that 2003 vintage that became the first for Roessler Cellars. Since then we have continued the tradition whenever possible, adding new and exciting vintages to our portfolio. Richard Sanford is considered the “father of Pinot Noir” in Santa Rita Hills, and his years of dedication to the site continue to make it one of the iconic Pinot vineyards in California today.

The 2013 vintage was one marked by a long warm growing season, which produced an abundant yield for the second straight year in Santa Barbara. Bud break was early and cluster counts were high. There were no major heat spikes to deal with but at harvest everything seemed to be in a hurry. The grapes were picked the second week in September and there was little damage to deal with. Beautiful full clusters of ripe fruit made for an excellent vintage. Employing our minimalist winemaking techniques, the juice went thru a normal fermentation using native yeasts and was put into French oak barrels, of which 40% were new. It was bottled 10 months later in June of 2014.

A bit ethereal in aromas of dried rose petals and earthiness, the wine slowly shows dried cranberry, raspberry, juniper and wet earth. The clean yet simple flavors transition to red tea and pomegranate, tart on the palate. Lean, with an acidity that sparks its mineral-graphite tones and feminine floral expression, the elegance and underlying power is impressive.



Winemaker:	Drew Huffine
Varietal:	100% Pinot Noir
Barrels:	French Oak 40% New
Barrel Aging:	10 Months
Fermentation:	Native Yeast
pH:	3.34
Total Acidity:	6.41
Alcohol Content:	13.2
Case Production:	150
SRP:	\$56