

# 2013 Vista Verde Vineyard Pinot Noir

#### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

From the glass, the wine immediately sings of black cherry and plum interlaced with creamy notes of vanilla, nutmeg and hoisin sauce. A prototypical mineral, or crushed oyster shell, component is prominent in both the aromatic and palate profiles. Zingy and refreshing on the palate with notes of clove and star anise giving way to the minerals and orange pith elements. The long finish is punctuated with hints of cocoa. A truly electric offering from Vista Verde!

## THE VINEYARD

Vista Verde Vineyard is located a couple miles southeast of Hollister, California, near the small town of Tres Pinos in San Benito County. This heavy limestone vineyard is separated into blocks that include clones such as Calera, Canada, and Pommard.

#### HARVEST 2013

With great back-to-back vintages, 2013 was every bit as good as 2012 has proven to be. Amidst concerns about another drought year, the rain gauges filled up to about 80% of the yearly average. The growing conditions were very favorable, which resulted in a remarkably similar growing season to the exceptional 2012 vintage. The only notable difference, however, was the increase of heat units in 2013, as measured by the Growing Degree Day index. With below average rainfall for the season bud break initiated earlier than average along Westside Road. April showers helped to drive good shoot growth and set the plants up for May flowering. Excellent weather at flowering time allowed for fantastic set and a bountiful yield across all appellations and varieties. Even with an earlier start to the growing season, the grapes had the ideal amount of time on the vine to achieve full maturity without any threat of inclement weather late in the season. Wines from the 2013 vintage exhibit extremely pure and polished tannins and the acidity will provide longevity, but the supple structure also offers earlier enjoyment.

### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

Barrel Description: 61% new oak, 39% 1 year

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.45

TA: 0.63g/100mL

Alc: 13.6%

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