

2016 DIERBERG PINOT NOIR  
DRUM CANYON VINEYARD, STA. RITA HILLS  
\$52



ALCOHOL  
13.9%

AGED  
16 months

OAK  
35% New French

HARVESTED  
August 2016

BOTTLED  
December 2017

CELLAR LIFE  
8-16 years

VINTAGE

As with recent vintages prior, another dry winter and warm spring led to an early start to the growing season. Spring and early summer remained warm, but overall the season was even and moderate in temperature throughout. As ripening started, even moderate days persisted into early September, and by the time all the Pinot and Chardonnay were harvested we managed to avoid any serious heat spells. This resulted in well developed, fresh, and pure examples of our vineyard.

WINEMAKER NOTES

2016 was a straightforward vintage with moderate yields and a good pace to ripening. Unlike 2015, the wines were not as obviously dense and masculine, and therefore we leaned a bit more on stem inclusion to ensure we built a structure that was supple and extended with firm tannins. All in all, we had about 25% whole cluster in the final blend. The wines were aged in about 35% new oak to add a bit of mid-palate texture before being bottled the following December.

TASTING NOTES

2016 feels like another step forward for this young vineyard. Showing the purity of 2014 but with more depth and mystery like 2015, this vintage makes its mark with a bit more fruit and less spice than we typically see with Drum Canyon. To articulate the nose is to do you a disservice; part of the pleasure of this wine is the time spent lingering with the aromatics, enjoying its various complexity. The mouthfeel and finish are pure, clean, well-structured and long. It's a compelling wine that is easy to go back to, but has much more to reveal with time.

