



2016 Old Vine Pinot Noir

McIntyre Estate Vineyard
Santa Lucia Highlands AVA

Overview

Steve McIntyre is one of the most knowledgeable viticulturists in California. As owner/operator of Monterey Pacific, he and his team farm 12,000 acres in Monterey County and have planted or farmed nearly one quarter of the vineyards in the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA. The McIntyre Estate Vineyard lies in the “sweet spot” of this rolling, benchland region. It produces incredibly intense and complex Pinot Noirs and well-structured, concentrated Chardonnays. It was among the first properties in the Santa Lucia Highlands to be SIP (Sustainability In Practice) Certified.

Vineyard

Our 2016 Old Vine Pinot Noir owes much of its success to superior terroir and diligent, sustainable farming. The ‘Old Vine’ block was planted nearly five decades ago, making it one of the oldest plantings of Pinot Noir in the Santa Lucia Highlands AVA. It is own rooted – a rarity in California. The crop was thinned to a maximum of three tons per acre or 1.5 lbs. of fruit per foot of cordon. Row orientation is primarily north/south in both vineyards, which provides even sun exposure from morning to afternoon. Except for one irrigation during a hot spell in August this portion of the block was dry land farmed.



Winemaking

At McIntyre our winemaking techniques are minimalistic. Our philosophy of “thoughtful but limited intervention” guarantees that the character and complexity of our fruit is highlighted in all of our wines. The grapes for this Pinot were harvested and hand-sorted in the early morning hours. Primary and malolactic fermentations were managed naturally using the wild, indigenous yeast strains that thrive in our vineyards.

Steve’s Tasting Notes

Every year we have a fresh opportunity to explore the terroir of the Santa Lucia Highlands. In 2016, the vines were balanced, the yields were low, the fruit was ripe and concentrated, and the winemaking process was effortless. This Old Vine Pinot offers plenty of ripe blackberry/cherry aromas and flavors that suggest Sorel mushrooms and black pepper. Polished, textured and expressive.

Vital Statistics

Composition	100% Pinot Noir, 40% whole cluster
Vineyard	McIntyre Estate Vineyards
AVA	Santa Lucia Highlands
Total Acidity	0.57 grams/100ml
PH	3.40
Alcohol	14.4%
Cases Produced	100
SRP	\$65.00

