

the hilt

2018

The Estate wines are defined by the fruit and flavors of our little southwestern corner of the Sta. Rita Hills. They speak of the nuances and complexities of our property as a whole. These wines take into account the many aspects, clones, soil types, and other properties of our estate. They give us the maximum amount of blending components and, represent the most complete wines in our portfolio.

Matt Dees, Winemaker Notes:

Welcomes with a decidedly savory and wild nose with bright red berries, incense, blood orange, clove, green peppercorn and black tea. Notes of dried sage, rosemary, menthol and elderberry. Seamless and pure red fruit that rolls across the palate with pomegranate-like juiciness. One can sense the cold, windy conditions of our estate vineyards in the focused and streamlined attack and persistent yet balanced brightness on the finish. Solid Hilt structure with large quantities of impossibly fine tannins. Altogether a seductive, chalky and deeply complex Hilt Estate pinot noir.

Estate Pinot Noir

CASES: 3,815
 APPELLATION: Sta. Rita Hills
 CLONAL SELECTION: Calera, Swan, Pommard, Mt. Eden, 37, 113, 114, 115, 667, 777 & 828
 ALCOHOL: 13.0%
 BARRELS: 8% New French oak, 92% neutral French oak for 11 months

93 Points Antonio Galloni *Vinous* Aug. 2020

A bright, effusive wine, the 2018 Pinot Noir Estate offers up an explosion of red berry fruit, spice and floral notes. Bright acids keep the flavors wonderfully vivid. Readers will find so much to like in this mid-weight, super-expressive Pinot from The Hilt. I loved it.

93 Points Jeb Dunnuck *jebdunnuck.com* Aug. 2020

The 2018 Pinot Noir Estate is equally brilliant, offering a vivid ruby/purple hue as well as loads of raspberry and tart cherry fruits, notes of violets and spice, medium-bodied richness, silky tannins, and a great finish.