

the old guard

the hilt

2017

PINOT NOIR

The Hilt is defined by its three maritime influenced vineyards in the southwest corner of the Sta. Rita Hills appellation: Radian, Bentrack and Puerta del Mar.

The Old Guard and The Vanguard wines are style-driven expressions. The Vanguard is richly textured, opulent, and velvety, while The Old Guard is all about structure. The Old Guard wines are complex, energetic, taut, and firmly structured. Each “Guard” is a blended barrel selection of pinot noir or chardonnay in a well-defined style.

The Old Guard pinot noirs are wild, tense, and energetic. This wine is all about structure, with tannins, darkness, and a brooding nature. Complex and energetic, The Old Guard wines achieve precision and spice from whole-cluster fermentation (up to 35 percent). They are matured in neutral oak, which promotes a leaner, less sweet-fruited quality.

2017

THE OLD GUARD
PINOT NOIR
STA. RITA HILLS

CASES: 289
ALC: 13.2%
CLONES: Mt. Eden, 667
BARRELS: 12 months in 100% used French oak
228L barrels. 40% whole cluster inclusion.

Red and green with wild plum, raspberry, dried tobacco, green peppercorn and dried porcini mushrooms. Rosemary and thyme. Expansive and supple. Hibiscus tea. Round and generous. Tightens in a delicious way with vinous tannins that cover the palate and roll seamlessly into a long and lively finish. Savory, dusty and crunchy. Perfect mix of green herbs and exotic spice with deep, dark fruit. Refined and elegant wine with a wild side. A wine of depth, class and pleasure. – *Matt Dees, Winemaker*

97 Points

Antonio Galloni *Vinous* 2019

96 Points

Jeb Dunnuck *jebdunnuck.com* 2019

