
STEELE SANTA BARBARA PINOT NOIR 2013



VINEYARDS

Bien Nacido, a nine hundred acre vineyard a few miles east of Santa Maria, is well known for its Chardonnay and Pinot Noir plantings. For years, Steele has sourced Pinot Noir from this famous site for our vineyard designated "Block N" bottling. For the Santa Barbara label, we pick from Block F, a younger-vine bench land site, and blend it with grapes from the lower elevation Goodchild Vineyard. The interplay between the Bien Nacido's bench land site and the Goodchild's sandy riverside soils make for a wine with great nuances and harmony.

WINE STYLE & TASTING NOTES

We take a hands-off approach with our pinots beginning with "rollers out" at the crusher, a process where the berries are left virtually intact at destemming. From there, it's largely a kid-glove handling of slow fermentation and long, gentle pressing. Finally, resting the finished wine in oak (30% new French) for about eight months. The velvety nose yields a strawberry and perfume quality. Dried cherries lead the palate, followed by hints of wild strawberries. Lovely floral notes shine before ending on a spicy note

FOOD PAIRINGS

Roast pheasant with a cherry and almond chutney, or with creamy polenta with mushrooms and eggplant

APPELLATION Santa Barbara County **HARVEST DATES** October 12th, 2013 **ALCOHOL** 14.5% **BRIX** Average 25.3
pH 03.73 **TA** 0.67g/100mL **BARREL AGING** 12 months in French; 30% new oak **VINE AGE** Avg. 20 years **YIELDS** 3
tons per acre **CASE PRODUCTION** 1950 cases