



# STERLING

VINTNER'S COLLECTION™



## 2014 PINOT NOIR

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Sterling Vineyards wines express true varietal character—that set of aromas and flavors a grape variety develops when grown in the terroir that suits it best. Carefully selected winemaking methods highlight each wine's unique personality and guarantee the high quality that distinguishes our reputation. Sterling Vintner's Collection offers hand-crafted, approachable selections sourced from diverse terroirs and priced to be enjoyed every day.

### VINTAGE

An early spring followed the mild winter in 2014, creating ideal conditions for bloom and fruit set. Moderate temperatures continued throughout the summer that allowed the grapes to ripen at a steady pace. The long growing season, coupled with no significant weather contributed to wines with expressive varietal character and balance.

### VINEYARD

For our Pinot Noir, we had the fortune of working with two great vineyards out the Central Coast. Edna Valley Ranch is located in San Luis Obispo and has a unique West-to-East alignment that pulls in cool air off the Pacific Ocean. This creates one of the longest growing seasons in the state and produces delicate Pinot Noir with soft tannins, ripe fruit and subtle hints of lavender. In Monterey County, our vineyards are nestled at the foothills of the Gavilan mountain range. Here, the Pinot Noir expresses itself in true Burgundian style with savory, earthy, raspberry flavors and complex tannins.

### WINEMAKING

The growing season in 2014 was ideal, allowing the fruit to linger on the vine well into the fall. We harvested the grapes at the peak of maturity, when the natural sugars and acids were in perfect balance. At the winery, the fruit was cold soaked for two days, followed by fermentation in temperature-controlled stainless steel tanks to preserve the delicate nature of the fruit. To impart complexity and structure, we barrel aged the wine for seven months with 100 percent French oak.

### TASTING NOTES

With poise and style, our 2014 Pinot Noir expresses the quality of this vintage. "The growing season was stellar and the wine shows a sophistication that comes from a slow ripening process," explains Winemaker Monica Belavic. At its core, the wine has fresh cherry-berry fruit with a sweet earthiness and a hint of violets. French oak lends subtle vanilla and clove spices. The flavors are deep and juicy, balancing bold fruit, bright acids and supple tannins. It's an easy choice for almost any occasion. Try it with soft, ripened cheeses, grilled salmon or roasted chicken.

### SOURCING:

Central Coast

### VARIETAL COMPOSITION:

Pinot Noir

### VINIFICATION:

7 months

100% French oak

### ANALYSIS:

Alc: 13.5%

TA: 5.4 g/L

pH: 3.7

