

2013 Pinot Noir  
Bien Nacido Vineyard  
Santa Maria Valley, Santa Barbara

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## Elements

Our Pinot sanctuary is located in the northern end of Santa Barbara County where the benchlands gently elevate to the Santa Maria Valley, 17 miles from the Pacific Ocean, affording the Bien Nacido Vineyard well-drained sandy loam from the Elder Shale and Pleasanton series, buffered by the Sierra Madre mountains. Considered one of the coolest growing regions in California, its long sunny days give grapes intense fruit flavors, while the chilly evenings and maritime fog add the complex earthy and herbal flavors ideal for Pinot Noir.

## Winemaking

After the 2013 September harvest, the grapes were transported in refrigerated trucks and hand-sorted at the winery before being gently de-stemmed. Our 2013 Pinot Noir was kept at 50° F – 52° F for a cold soak for a few days before fermentation. 48% of the fruit was fermented in barrels and the rest was fermented in open top tanks. When alcoholic fermentation was finished, the skins were pressed off in a basket press. Malolactic fermentation was 100% completed. The wine was aged in 100% French barrels for 11 months before bottling.

## Profile

**Aroma:** fresh red berries, dried herbs, sweet toasty notes, vanilla

**Mouthfeel:** rich and smooth in the palate, very elegant, with a long finish and balanced acidity

**Flavors:** strawberry, red cherries, herbs and vanilla

## Specs

**Appellation:** Santa Maria Valley

**Varietal content:** 100% Pinot Noir

**Cases produced:** 1,303

**Alcohol:** 14.3%

**TA g/100 ml:** 0.54

**pH:** 3.56

**RS g/100ml:** .07