

Crawford Family Wines



2014 Pinot Noir Zotovich Vineyard Sta. Rita Hills

I'm often asked if I have a plan before harvest about how I want to make each individual wine or if we decide once the fruit has arrived to go one way or another. For this wine...the plan was set before harvest started. Zotovich is a very flat, open vineyard that is planted in deep sandy loam soils. Wines from that type of environment often exhibit bright and well-delineated varietal character, and that's exactly what I had in mind for this wine. We picked it early (at least compared to our other sources) and it was completely de-stemmed prior to fermentation. The goal was complete transparency. There is nothing to get in the way of that beautiful Pinot Noir fruit quality. To that end the wine was aged in completely neutral oak barrels so there was no aroma or flavor imparted by the wood. The result is a light, soft and elegant Pinot Noir that shows off the terrific farming the Zotovich family is doing.

Tasting Note: The light ruby hue of this wine says a lot about the way this wine is in the glass. The nose is bright and is so clearly Pinot Noir. It is wonderfully varietal and the lack of new oak promotes the spicy berry notes that make Sta. Rita Hills Pinot Noir unique. On the pallet the wine comes across as feather light, soft and delicate and braced by a backbone of acidity rather than tannin or oak. The flavors are as clearly Pinot as the nose would indicate.

Only 93 cases produced
100% clone 777
100% de-stemmed
14.0% alcohol
pH 3.51
TA 0.69g/100ml
Retail Price: \$40.00