



### HARVEST

A fourth year of drought and a relatively warm winter in California led to an early start to the growing season, which in turn resulted in one of the earliest harvests on record. Yields were at record lows as well. Clusters and berries were small and very concentrated, translating to exceptional quality.

### VINEYARDS

The Garey Vineyard lies in the heart of the Santa Maria Valley on a bench above the small town of Garey. The terroir is one of gently rolling slopes with sandy loam soils. The coastal fog influence and the cool afternoon breezes are the perfect climate for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The vineyard was planted in 1998 by the Robert Mondavi Winery and is also SIP (sustainability in practice) certified. The clones for this wine are Dijon clones 667 and 777.

### WINEMAKING

Pinot Noir grapes were hand harvested into half-ton bins and crushed into a small jacketed tank. Following a two-day cold soak, which promoted excellent extraction of color, aroma and flavor, the lots were inoculated with Assmanshausen yeast to initiate the cool primary fermentation. The fermenting juice was pumped over three to four times daily during the peak of fermentation, then once times daily until dry. After pressing, the wine was transferred to a combination of one third new French oak barrels, one third one-year-old barrels and one third two-year-old barrels where it underwent malo-lactic fermentation and aged for 16 months.

### TASTING NOTES

This Pinot Noir displays classic Santa Maria Valley aromatics featuring hints of wild strawberry, black cherry and cranberry with accents of subtle French oak, earth and dried Mediterranean herbs. The flavors are rich and lush with notes of dark cherry, pomegranate and spice. The luscious texture is supported by soft, well-balanced tannins, culminating in a seductive, lingering finish.

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Varietal:	Pinot Noir	T.A.:	5.8 g/l
Appellation:	Santa Maria Valley	pH:	3.65
Vineyard:	Garey Vineyard	Alcohol:	14.1%
Harvest:	August 22, 2015	Bottling:	January 6, 2017
Oak Aging:	16 months	Production:	299 cases