



## **2012 Pinot Noir**

### ***Vine Hill Reserve***

Vineyards: Branciforte Creek Vineyard & Bailey's Branciforte Ridge Vyd

Appellation: Santa Cruz Mountains

Wine: 100% Pinot Noir - Alcohol: 13.2%

Production: 118 cases

French, Hungarian and inert barrels for 18 months

The wine is unfinned and unfiltered - Bottle aged 4 years before release

Santa Cruz Mountain Vineyard has been making Pinot Noir from the historic Vine Hill District of the Santa Cruz Mountains since 1975. This region is called Vine Hill from the fact that there were hundreds of acres planted to wine grapes in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

In years that we think have great quality, we go through and pick out a handful of our very favorite barrels from each of the two vineyards we work with from the Vine Hill District. We release it at least five years from the vintage, to give the wine more time to develop in the bottle. We have a proven history of Pinot Noir from this area aging beautifully for up to four decades and we have every hope that this Reserve bottling will carry on that tradition when cellared properly.

Branciforte Creek Vineyard was planted in 1988 and is Pommard clone. Bailey's Branciforte Ridge Vineyard was planted in 1999 and is Dijon 155 and Dijon 667 clones. Both of these vineyards are great at producing wines that have all the savory complexities that we feel a great Pinot Noir should have. They range in elevation between 800 and 1,200 feet above sea level and are less than two miles apart from each other.

**92 Points** – *Anthony Dias Blue*

**91 points** – *Wine Advocate*

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