

## 2012 PINOT NOIR BOEKENOOGEN VINEYARD

## VINEYARD

The Mooney Family 2012 "Boekenoogen Vineyard" Pinot Noir was grown on one of the Santa Lucia Highlands' best known estates. High on the ridgeline in the northern part of the SLH, the Boekenoogen family's property consistently offers focused, intense flavors in its mountaintop fruit.

The 2012 vintage in the Santa Lucia Highlands was fairly "textbook" with below average winter rains giving way to gentle spring and summer temperatures. The Highlands' close proximity to Monterey Bay is evidenced in the strong, cool afternoon winds in summer and fall that slow down photosynthesis and lengthen the growing season – ideal conditions for growing Pinot Noir. The fruit was hand-picked at Boekenoogen throughout October and rushed to the winery in Creston.

## CFILAR

At the winery, the fruit was fermented in small open top bins after careful sorting and destemming. Manual punchdowns three times daily extracted the dark color and structuring tannins of this heavyweight Pinot Noir. The wine was transferred to French oak barrels - seventy percent of which were "new wood" and thirty percent "three year old." Fifteen months aging added the finishing touches to this limited release. Only 240 cases were produced.

Our 2012 Mooney Family "Boekenoogen Vineyard" Pinot Noir displays both power and finesse in its lush black cherry, plum, and blackberry aromas and flavors. Interesting touches of flower and spice allied to a dollop of warm vanillin-oak fill the middle and complement the mouthfeel. The tannins are medium-weight; cool climate acidity provides balance and many food-pairing possibilities.

## **ACCOLADES**

94 Points, Exceptional

"Much darker than many other wines of the appellation, this offers a deep, nuanced nose of clove, black soil, tobacco, white sage, violet, and deep purple juice. Soil and pine sap jump out on the palate, where herbs and blackberry swirl into a complex, powerful wine that has the tannic structure to drink well into 2020."

- Wine Enthusiast Magazine, Nov. 14



Appellation Santa Lucia Highlands

Vineyards Boekenoogen

Clones Dijon 113, Pommard 4

Winemaker Michael Mooney

Cooperage 15 months in French oak, 70% new

Alcohol 14.8% Cases Made 240

Release Winter 2014

Sugg. Retail \$68