

2012 bien nacido vineyard pinot noir santa maria valley



vintage notes

Rebounding from one of the wettest years to one of the drier years, we had 190 days of almost perfect growing conditions. The wines of 2012 show structure and style similar to age worthy wines. This vintage presents some of the best wines since 2007.

wine information

Appellation	Santa Maria Valley
Vineyards	Bien Nacido Vineyard Block G - planted 1973
Soil	Pleasanton sandy loam
Clones	Pommard 4, own root
Oak	Neutral
Cellar Aging	17 months
Stem Inclusion	100%
Alcohol by Volume	14.0%
pH	3.81
TA	6.0 g/L
Brix at Harvest	23.5
Harvest Date	September 14, 2012
Bottling Date	February 10, 2014
Cases Produced	140
Magnums Produced	5
Price	\$48/750ml

alta maria vineyards

James Ontiveros and Paul Wilkins have travelled many roads that have all led to here. With a couple of friends in college, they bonded over a burgeoning interest in wine. Interest grew into obsession and obsession was fused into the most conventional aspects of their youth. They spent and sacrificed more than many their age to become veterans in their fields. Then, they moved away and lost touch as life unfolded before them.

Over time, each was drawn to a region of quiet treasure: the Santa Maria Valley. James' vineyard set upon his family's ranch was the setting of the reunion of these two friends. This time, they were prepared to turn each other's passion into a partnership which seems to have been waiting for them all along. From there, they have shared affinity for all things homespun, historical and honest, which reflects the unflappable authenticity of the Santa Maria Valley.

Alta Maria Vineyards has become their tribute to the seldom heralded excellence of this regions' vineyards, climate, geography and the people who have known this all along.



THE ARTWORK for Alta Maria Vineyards features hand hewn iron nails used by homesteaders in Santa Maria before the Industrial Revolution introduced mass-produced, machine-cut nails. Despite its lowly function, each nail is unique from the next according to the conditions in which it was made and the expertise of the craftsman.

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