

Lucia



2015 LUCIA GARYS' VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

With generations of farming history in Monterey County, and a commitment to making exceptional wines, The Pisoni Family hand-crafts the Lucia wines from the Pisoni, Garys' and Soberanes Vineyards of the Santa Lucia Highlands.

THE VINEYARD

Garys' Vineyard has been named "one of the most famous vineyards in California" by Lettie Teague in the Wall Street Journal. It is a joint venture between Gary Pisoni and Gary Franscioni, two native growers of the Santa Lucia Highlands. Pinot Noir and Syrah grapes have enjoyed long, slow growing seasons in this 50-acre parcel since 1997. The vineyard's position on a sloping hillside in the center of the 16-mile long appellation offers a true representation of the Santa Lucia Highlands: alluvial soils with heavy fog and strong, cold winds in the summer.

THE VINTAGE

Farming was extremely important in 2015. An unseasonably warm winter led to the earliest bud break on record in the Santa Lucia Highlands, effectively shifting the growing season to the early months of the year. Flowering occurred during cold, overcast and windy weather conditions, resulting in a poor set. Shatter was rampant. It became clear early on that 2015 would be a low-yielding vintage. With crop levels down 70% in some blocks, it was imperative that the remaining fruit be tended with utmost care. Fortunately, summer cooperated with mild temperatures and normal fog, so vine development kept its usual pace. Harvest began the last week in August and spanned the month of September. Despite the early start and finish to harvest, total time for fruit on the vines was relatively typical, and Brix levels were lower than normal due to one more year of drought stress on the vines and early phenolic maturity.

WINEMAKING

The Pisoni Family is committed to raising and hand-crafting exceptional wines. The limited-production Lucia wines are created using classic, gentle and thoughtful winemaking techniques. Hand-picked and sorted grapes are fermented with native yeast and aged in carefully selected French oak barrels. Our state-of-the-art winemaking facility uses gravity flow as part of a custom design conceived to merge the estate vineyards and winery. This affords us complete control of the farming and winemaking process, ensuring consistently superior quality.

TASTING NOTES

Deep cranberry in hue, the 2015 Garys' Vineyard Pinot Noir invites with hints of rose, raspberry, baking spice and vanilla bean that slowly open to an exuberant minerality. A velvety, intensely-concentrated mouthfeel with undertones of cacao leads into smooth, elegant tannins. Texture is the hallmark of this vintage, whose freshness and energy, tempered with gentle structure, allows for approachability in its youthful stages. Though weather brought us a small fruit set that ripened early the reward was excellent character and depth.

CASES PRODUCED: 580
RETAIL PRICE: \$65
RELEASE DATE: Fall 2017
WINEMAKER: Jeff Pisoni

BARREL AGING: 10 Months in 45% New Oak
BARREL ORIGIN: 100% French Oak
WHOLE CLUSTER: 6%
FERMENTATION: 100% Native Yeast