BYRON

NIELSON VINEYARD

2015 *PINOT NOIR*

WINERY DESCRIPTION

A good share of Byron winemaking takes place in the vineyard, where winemaker Jonathan Nagy selects individual rows and blocks for their potential to express both variety and site—focusing particularly on clones that best exemplify Byron's balanced, textural and site-expressive style.

Byron's site-specific Pinot Noirs are deeply rooted in the vineyards of Santa Barbara County's two defining appellations: Santa Maria Valley and Sta. Rita Hills. The wines explore each vineyard's block and row distinctions defined by soil, microclimate, fog cover, wind, exposure, elevation, clonal selection and farming techniques.

WINE DESCRIPTION

Originally planted in 1964, Nielson is the site of Santa Barbara's first commercial vineyard, and has been Byron's estate vineyard for over 30 years. The historic, cool-climate, benchland vineyard serves as a model for Santa Barbara's viticultural experimentation and sustainable farming methods. The Nielson Vineyard's location at the warmer, eastern end of the Santa Maria Valley accounts for the wine's dark color and ripe flavor profile. Prior to fermentation, the Pinot Noir clusters were 100% de-stemmed to accentuate the naturally rich and smooth texture of our estate grown fruit. The wine shows aromas of blackberries, rose petals, dried herbs, and earth. Flavors are driven by a dark fruit core, complemented by sandalwood, black pepper, and crushed stone.

THE WINE

APPELLATION	SANTA MARIA VALLEY
VARIETAL COMPOSITION	100% PINOT NOIR
BARREL REGIME	15 MONTHS AGING; 100% FRENCH OAK, 35% NEW
CASES PRODUCED (9L)	1,250
ALCOHOL	13.4%
TA	5.0G/L
PH	3.64

THE VINEYARD

CLIMATE	COOL, MARINE INFLUENCE
SOIL TYPE	ALLUVIAL, SANDY-LOAM, DECOMPOSING ROCK AND ELDER SOILS
DISTANCE FROM PACIFIC OCEAN	18 MILES
ELEVATION	500-800 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL
YEAR PLANTED	FIRST PLANTED IN 1964, REPLANTED BY KEN BROWN IN 2000
CLONES	OVER 23, INCLUDING DIJON CLONES 114, 667, POMMARD, SWAN, 2A, 828
ASPECT	SOUTH FACING SLOPE
SUSTAINABLE	CCSW CERTIFIED