



FLANAGAN

2015 PINOT NOIR, *Sonoma Stage Vineyard*



APPELLATION Sonoma Coast

HARVEST DATE September 12, 2015

BRIX 24

PH 3.6

TA 5.9

BARREL REGIMEN Aged in Francois Freres, Boutes, and Rousseau barrels for 12 months.

CASES PRODUCED 235

RELEASE DATE March 21, 2017

VINEYARD

The vineyard is owned by Dick Hyde, whose family also owns the renowned Hyde Vineyard in Napa. The Sonoma Stage Vineyard is one of the coolest vineyards in Sonoma County. Positioned on the south side of Highway 116, between Sonoma and Napa, the vineyard is subject to cool winds both from San Pablo Bay to the south and the Petaluma Gap to the west.

The 2015 Vintage at Sonoma Stage started with cold, windy spring weather that resulted in low crop yields. Partly because of the lower crop yields the site seemed to produce a slightly riper fruit profile in 2015. (When the vine has less fruit to ripen it will generally ripen it more quickly and you often have high sugar levels by the time the skins and seeds are mature.)

TASTING NOTES

Sonoma Stage typically has a very cool climate profile that emphasizes soy, mushroom and forest floor notes, but in 2015 the riper profile means that the wine shows more ripe black fruits like blackberry and black cherry. The fruit notes are balanced by the spice components which are present both in the nose and on the palate. Even in a riper vintage the wine retains the vibrant acidity characteristic of the vineyard.