

# Nice Winery

## 2018 Pinot Noir

*Santa Barbara, California*

### About the Wine

This 2018 vintage of our Nice Winery Pinot Noir is ripe, delicious, and powerful thanks to the phenomenal weather of the Santa Maria Valley in Santa Barbara County, California. It also has finesse and silkiness after spending almost one year in French oak barrels. The grapes for this wine come primarily from the High 9 block of vines in the Goodchild Vineyard. These vineyards consistently produce prize-winning Pinot Noir grapes. The soils vary from clay and gravel river deposits to hillside and hilltop sites reminiscent of the great vineyards of Burgundy. These valley vineyards benefit from a rare transverse mountain range topography, an east-west orientation which channels the cool ocean air of the Pacific into the coastal valleys, allowing warm days and cool nights to produce a long, gentle growing season.

The fruit was hand-harvested and sorted by cluster to guarantee that only premium grapes made it into the barrels. Then, the wine was allowed to soak on the skins until the natural fermentation began. Each step in the winemaking process was natural, without any of the usual additions that commercial wineries use, such as acid, nitrogen, and nutrients, which affect the natural flavors and taste. 10% of the barrels were new oak and the rest were one or two years old. The wine was aged in these barrels for 11 months before it was bottled without any fining or filtration. Pair with pork, salmon, roasted poultry, or creamy cheeses, like aged goat and Bucheron. This wine does not require decanting.

**Tasting Notes:** Cranberry. Rhubarb. Plum. Mocha. Pepper. Smoke. Tobacco.

### About Ryan and Ian



Certified Sommeliers, Wine Educators, and Le Cordon Bleu-trained Chefs, Ryan Levy and Ian Eastveld, are the “Foodie Superduo” behind Nice Winery. Their chef-driven wines have been lauded in Wine Enthusiast, awarded 94 point ratings, gold medals, and are featured on top wine lists. When not making their hand-crafted wines, the chefs teach about wine and food at their Houston winery and tasting studio.



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