

# Brewer - Clifton

## TASTING NOTES

— 2020 —  
WINEENTHUSIAST  
WINEMAKER  
OF THE YEAR  
GREG BREWER



## 2016 STA. RITA HILLS PINOT NOIR

This bottling is comprised of 100% estate pinot noir from four vineyards within the AVA. 3D, Machado, Acin and Hapgood all contribute to the wine which exhibits a drive, richness and pedigree expressive of our special growing area coupled with the purity of fruit and firm structure which have been the trademark of Brewer - Clifton.

**Aroma** Pomegranate, White Tea, Raspberry

**Flavor** Dried Fig, White Truffle, Ripe Cherry

**Texture** Rooibos Tea, Savory

**90** POINTS, KIM MARCUS, *WINE SPECTATOR*, AUGUST 2018

**90** POINTS, WILLIAM KELLEY, *ROBERT PARKER WINE ADVOCATE*, APRIL 2018

### PHILOSOPHY

At Brewer - Clifton, we believe that the geographic, geologic and climatic uniqueness of the Sta. Rita Hills appellation provide an ideal place to grow chardonnay and pinot noir of intensity, complexity and specificity. Our mission and indeed our passion is to present wines that convey the characteristics inherent to each of these sites, with uncompromising quality.

### CRAFT

Only neutral barrels are employed. We strive for whole cluster fermentation. We farm with a focus of ripening the stems alongside the fruit, allowing the cluster to be in harmony. Working with the stems allows for wines that are structured, earthy and balanced with our beautiful SRH fruit.

### FARMING

As each vineyard has its own unique requirements and we manage each according to their inimitable needs rather than a macro approach to farming. We are working to achieve a natural balance between the site, the vines, the aspect and the microclimates in each vineyard, using sustainable and/or organic farming methods whenever possible.

### VINEYARD

This blend is comprised of 3D, Machado, Acin and Hapgood vineyards:

**3D** The primary emphasis of the predominantly sandy 10 acre vineyard is chardonnay, with five clones planted in addition to chardonnay, there is a smaller field of pinot noir planted to Swan, Pommard and 667 clones.

**MACHADO** 15 acre parcel on the Machado family land is located adjacent to Clos Pepe and immediately behind the Kessler-Haak vineyard. The site is marked by a gorgeous rolling terrain with sandy clay loam soils.

**ACIN** 2 1/2 acres of pinot noir is planted of clone 828. The budwood is a Wente selection originally taken from the original Nielsen Vineyard planted in Santa Maria in 1964.

**HAPGOOD** In slightly richer soil, the vineyard is planted to the Mount Eden selection of chardonnay. The elevated clay loam content results in larger volume and a more dense palate expression. Our most recent installation, planted in 2010, is this small 2 1/2 acre section of pinot noir planted to Merry Edwards clone.

