



**2012 DOLIN PINOT NOIR  
SOLOMON HILLS VINEYARD,  
SANTA MARIA VALLEY**

Solomon Hills Vineyard is owned by the Miller Family, who are expert wine growers. Planted in 1990, the vineyard is the western most in the AVA and is greatly influenced by the Pacific Ocean located only a few miles away. It boasts the coolest temperatures in the region. This Pinot Noir comes from a select few rows on Block 3, where the soils are predominantly ocean floor sandy loam. The cool climate provides the grapes a long growing season with little rainfall, allowing ample time to develop layered and balanced flavors.



**Vineyard Established:** 1999

**Soil Type:** marine and Garey sandy loam series with alluvial cobble

**Elevation/Slope:** Rolling 'flat'

**Exposure:** West

**Rootstock/Clonal Selections:** Dijon 777

**Viticulture:** SIP certified and California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance certified. VSP pruning, sparse watering and native cover crops are employed.

**Harvest Date:** September 24, 2012

**Cooperage & Aging:** 20 months in Dargaud & Jaegle, Cadus, Francois Freres, and Damy – primarily Allier forests.

**Finish:** Unfined and Filtered

**Bottling Date:** April, 2014

**pH:** 3.55, **TA:** .61 grams/100 ml, **ABV:** 14.34%

**Production:** 140 cases

**Harvest Notes**

The 2012 Pinot Noir growing season in Santa Maria Valley was ideal for both quality and abundance. The lack of rain, frost and storms in the spring allowed for ideal fruit set and resulted in slightly higher yields. Summer was mild with warm, sunny days and cool evenings. The warmer temperatures in August helped achieve phenolic ripeness.

**Winemaking Notes**

Following harvest the grapes were de-stemmed and then underwent a five-day cold soak. Fermentation took place in 1.3-ton fermentation tanks with twice-daily punch downs. Following the conclusion of primary fermentation, the wine settled for 36 hours and was pressed clean to medium-toast French oak barrels (30% new) where it completed ML over four plus months and aged for a total of 19 months.

- Kirby Anderson, Winemaker

**Tasting Notes**

The Solomon Hills Pinot Noir opens with robust and fragmented notes of cherry cola, strawberry, smoke and earth. On the palate the wine is delicate yet robust, with flavors of red berries, evolving into cherry notes throughout the lengthy finish.