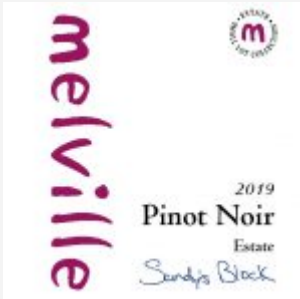


## Melville Sta. Rita Hills Estate Sandy's Block Pinot Noir 2019

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein, Master Sommelier Madeline Triffon, and Master Sommelier Tim Gaiser



### Final Deductions

**VINTAGE** 2019  
**GRAPE** Pinot Noir  
**GEOGRAPHY** New World  
**COUNTRY** USA  
**LARGER REGION** California  
**SMALLER REGION** Central Coast  
**SUB REGION** Sta. Rita Hills

### Rationale

Pinot Noir is capable of some of the most exquisite examples of red wine imaginable. Unfortunately, in many spots globally, it is at the mercy of fickle weather and, as such, less than spectacular harvests making it one of the most challenging grape varieties to produce.

California's moderate Mediterranean-like weather combined with cool coastal enclaves -- from Anderson Valley in the north to Santa Barbara in the south -- provides Pinot Noir growers more security in their efforts to cultivate this most difficult of grape varieties.

Santa Barbara County (including Santa Maria and Santa Ynez Valleys; also Sta. Rita Hills): Here, the cool breezes from the Pacific Ocean create a fine environment to grow Pinot Noir. Santa Barbara Pinot Noirs often offer luscious strawberry aromas and flavors, with herbal notes.

Melville Vineyards is situated in the Sta. Rita Hills, located in the Western Santa Ynez Valley of Santa Barbara County, currently has 120 acres under vines.

### Sight

**BRIGHTNESS** Day Bright  
**CLARITY** Clear  
**COLOR DEPTH** Light  
**COLOR** Ruby  
**RIM VARIATION** Ruby  
*Stained Tears: None*

### Structure

**RESIDUAL SUGAR** Dry  
**ACID** Med+  
**ALCOHOL** Med+  
**TANNIN** Medium  
**TEXTURE** Lean / Tart  
**FINISH** Long  
**COMPLEXITY** Med+

### Aroma & Taste

**RED FRUIT** Red Plum • Cranberry • Red Raspberry • Red / Sour Cherry • Pomegranate  
*Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

**BLACK FRUIT** Black Raspberry • Black Cherry • Blackberry *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*

**CITRUS FRUIT** Tangerine *Condition: Fresh Part: Peel / Zest*

**FLORAL** Hibiscus • Rose • Jasmine *Condition: Fresh*

**GREEN VEGETABLE** Dark Leafy Greens • Olive (Green) • Arugula

**OTHER VEGETABLE** Mushrooms (Brown) • Beet (Purple) • Tomato Leaf • Rhubarb

**HERBAL** Tea Leaf / Bergamot • Sage • Chervil • Laurel / Bay Leaf

**OTHER SPICES** Sassafras • Licorice (Black) • Chinese Five Spice

**ORGANIC EARTH** Forest Floor • Turned Dirt / Clay

**INORGANIC EARTH** Mineral / Rock

**OAK AGING** Yes *Oak Intensity: Low*

**OAK INFLUENCE** Used Barrique

**PERCEIVED WINEMAKING CHOICES** Partial Whole Cluster • Added / Stem Inclusion