



# BYRON NIELSON VINEYARD PINOT NOIR 2013

Appellation: Santa Maria Valley, California; USA

**Winemaker:** Jonathan Nagy  
**Closure:** Cork  
**Alcohol:** 14.5



## Vineyard

All of the grapes for this Pinot Noir come from the historic, estate-owned Nielson Vineyard, the first commercial vineyard in Santa Barbara County, planted in 1964 by Mr Uriel Nielson and replanted in 2000. The site's sandy loam, benchland soils help to reduce plant vigor, resulting in low yields, small berries and intense flavors. Planted in high density spacing to premium Dijon clones, average yields are less than three tons per acre. The fruit for the Nielson blend is noted for its firm structure, vivid color and concentration.

## Reviews

Another terrific wine is the 2013 Pinot Noir Nielson Vineyard, which was completely destemmed and aged 16 months in 40% new French oak. Still showing its oak elevage, with lots of caramelized cherry, black raspberry, sweet oak and spice, it hits the palate with a seamless, silky, gorgeously pure texture that carries plenty of fruit and finishes clean and dry, with notable tannic grip. Give it a year or two in the cellar to integrate its oak and drink bottles through 2021.. - **92 points**, [erobertparker.com](http://erobertparker.com) August 2015

## Winemaker's Comments

This wine is a combination of Dijon and Heritage clones planted in sandy soils on our estate Nielson Vineyard. The site's location at the warmer, east end of the Santa Maria Valley accounts for the dark color and ripe flavor profile. This wine was 100% destemmed to accentuate the rich texture and seamless tannins, then cold-soaked for three to five days to intensify fruit character, color, and body. Primary aromas include black berries, rose petals and earth.

## Vintage

The 2013 vintage was an overall dry year with a moderate winter and spring. These conditions led to an abundance of extremely high quality fruit with flavors of dark berry, cherry, hints of floral and mineral.

## Stats

**Clones:** 114, 667, Pommard  
**Cooperage:** 100% French oak, 35% new  
**Case Production:** 1750 cases

