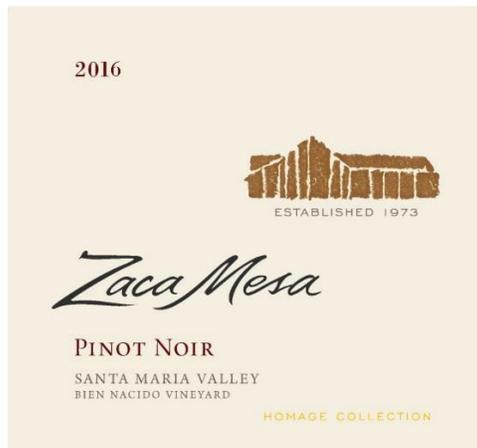




2016 PINOT NOIR



COMPOSITION
100% Pinot Noir

VINEYARD
Bien Nacido Vineyard

HARVEST DATE
August 24 – September 2, 2016

APPELLATION
Santa Maria Valley

AGING
10 months in 28% new French oak

TA | PH
0.606 g/100mL | 3.45

ALCOHOL
14.1%

BOTTLED
July 12th, 2017

CASES PRODUCED
512

WINEMAKING AND VINEYARD TEAM
Eric, Kristin, Agustin, Ruben, Randy,
Ramirez, Jose & Angel

WINERY HISTORY

In 1972, the Zaca Mesa property was purchased by a group of friends. With few other vineyards to learn from, the vineyard was originally planted in 1973 with numerous grape varieties to see what would work. By the late-80s we had determined based on our farming experience that the Rhône varieties grew best on our property. Since then we have focused our efforts on growing world-class examples of Syrah and other Rhône varieties through meticulous farming and traditional winemaking techniques.

THE HOMAGE COLLECTION

This collection of four wines is a tribute to the grapes once produced here at Zaca Mesa. We have selected several iconic Santa Barbara County vineyards that produce fruit of the highest distinction and quality. These vineyards represent the pinnacle of each varietal, just as Zaca Mesa Vineyards represents the pinnacle of California Rhône-style varietals.

The Bien Nacido Vineyard is located in the Santa Maria Valley. A mere 20 miles for the ocean, the cold Pacific air combined with complex soils make this historic vineyard ideal for growing some of Santa Barbara County's most highly prized cool climate varietals.

GROWING SEASON AND HARVEST

2016 took a step back towards normal after two of our warmest vintages and earliest harvests on record. An early bud-break in March started the year ahead of schedule, but spring temperatures were generally average. Early summer saw a return to the heat, but Mother Nature quickly hit the brakes in August and September allowing the vines to slow their accumulation of sugar and loss of acidity.

WINEMAKING

These Pinot Noir grapes were hand-picked and sorted in the vineyard. Each clone was kept separate and gently de-stemmed into a 1-ton bins to ferment. Once dry, we racked the Pinot Noir into a combination of Francois Ferrer, Sirugue French oak barrels for a 10 month elevage before being bottled.

THE WINE

The Pinot Noir grape has a long history at Zaca Mesa Winery. Pinot masters such as Ken Brown, Jim Clendenen and Lane Tanner all experimented with how to make world class Pinot Noir during the 70s and 80s at Zaca Mesa, using fruit from our estate vineyard as well as sites in the Santa Maria Valley.

Our 2016 Pinot Noir is vivid with red fruits, tea spice, and crushed rock. The palate is graceful with intense flavors of cherry and nutmeg, leading into a long finish with polished tannins and French oak spice.