



## 2014 SANTA MARIA VALLEY PINOT NOIR

### *Wine Enthusiast*

**“Best of Year 2016”**

**“California: Central Coast – the coast with the most”**

“Today, an increasingly mature, experienced and yet continually creative stock of winemakers is producing an array of wines that deserve global attention.”

#### **2014 Presqu'ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**

“Tart cranberry, wild thyme, olive and Indian spices show on the nose of this appellation blend, a great representation of the cool-climate styles this winery is known for. Kalamata olive and Mediterranean spices arise on the palate, with baked fig, orange rinds, preserved lemon and chaparral combining for a tagine-like expression.” **92 Points: Excellent; Highly recommended**

-Matt Kettmann, December 2016

### *Wine Review Online*

“Presqu'ile continues its line of successful Pinot Noir offerings with this 12.9% alcohol glass that's bursting with cherry, dry earth, cardamom and sweet oak spice aromas and flavors. It's a great find for those seeking lower octane without sacrificing flavor and finish. I'd rest this a few years to fully integrate the oak. A blend of clones 115, 777, 667 Pommard and Mt. Eden.” **91 Points**

-Rich Cook, October 2016

### *Vinography*

“The folks from Presqu'ile sent me a few of their new releases as well, and **the Pinot Noirs are predictably fantastic.**”

#### **2014 Presqu'ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**

“Medium garnet in color, this wine smells of forest floor, redcurrants and raspberries. In the mouth, **beautifully textured flavors** of raspberry, green wood and cherry are **silky on the tongue and bright with juicy acidity.** Herbal and dried flower notes float above the fruit, and barely perceptible tannins gently brush the back of the mouth. Great finish.” **Around 9 Points**

-Alder Yarrow, August 2016

### *Vinous*

**“Proprietor Matt Murphy and his family have been absolutely relentless in their total pursuit of excellence. Presqu'ile is an estate to keep an eye on.”**

#### **2014 Presqu'ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**

“The 2014 Pinot Noir (Santa Maria Valley) is an attractive, lifted wine. Rose petal and bright red cherry notes give the 2014 good brightness. A greater reliance on Dijon clones and a reduction in whole clusters to around 20% has resulted in a more forward, fruit-driven style that is well suited to what most people probably expect from an appellation level Pinot.” **90 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Antonio Galloni, September 2016

***Santa Barbara News-Press***

**“Presqu’ile: From the ground up”**

“When the Murphys, a Louisiana-based farming family, started looking around the West Coast for the ideal spot for growing world-class pinot noir, the Santa Maria Valley ended up in their bull's-eye. Presqu'ile (Creole for ‘almost an island’), is an unqualified success. The grapes tend to be picked earlier, resulting in lower alcohols, which, in turn, means better and more enjoyable drinkability. Now with a proven track record, Presqu'ile just may be **the template for future Santa Barbara County wine growing and winemaking.**”

**2014 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**

“Primarily an estate pinot with a dollop of grapes from nearby Bien Nacido Vineyard, it shows dark black and blue fruit, spice and earthy loam on the nose. Then bright red fruit moves in, adding to the aromatic equation. Red cherry, pomegranate, moist earth and brown baking spices are the immediate flavors and, with air, darker fruit comes into play: damson plum and dark, ripe black cherry. Initially popping the cork, you think it's not that concentrated (only 12.9 percent alcohol), but step aside and stand back - this wine blows up in the glass and will reward your patience. Surprise!”

-Dennis Schaefer, August 2016

## 2013 SANTA MARIA VALLEY PINOT NOIR

***Wine & Spirits***

**“Year’s Best US Pinot Noir”**

“With plenty of leafy stem spice cutting through the plump fruit of the 2013 vintage, this is bold, hearty and firm. Theoretically it’s a selection of the more forward lots of the Presqu’ile estate...It’s a savory wine with power, structure and enough flavor to match yakitori dishes like grilled chicken hearts.” **92 Points: Exceptional examples of their type**

-Luke Sykora, April 2016

***JancisRobinson.com***

“Very pale ruby. Lots of sweet, candied violet notes. Firm, fresh finish with a little bit of green vegetation. Fine. Drink 2015-2019” **16.5/20 Points: Distinguished**

-Jancis Robinson, March 2016

***Wine Review Online***

“An interesting Pinot Noir from a relatively new producer. At first whiff it presents dusty minerality and talc notes over soft cherry and faint spice. With a good swirl it releases bold damp earth and rich brown spice. It all comes together in the mouth, with **racy acidity** and a moderate grip bringing all the aromas together as flavors, with a long, mouthwatering finish. I'm excited to see what South African-born winemaker Dieter Cronje is up to in other bottlings.” **91 Points**

-Rich Cook, February 2016

***Wine Enthusiast***

“The appellation blend from this **relatively young but widely regarded property**, this offers gravel, wet clay, purple and red fruits and lots of earth tones on the nose. Cranberry and sour-cherry fruit show on the palate, with eucalyptus oil in the midpalate and wet river stones and orange zest on the finish.” **90 Points: Excellent; Highly recommended**

-Matt Kettmann, June 2016

***The Colorado Springs Gazette***

**“Lively Wines from California's Central Coast”**

“A few miles farther south in Santa Barbara County, two regions rival Sonoma as California's best source of pinot noir. Typically, Santa Maria Valley wines, such as the **2013 Presqu'ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**, tend toward elegance, bright fruit and precise structure, while the 2013 Presqu'ile Vineyard Pinot Noir is fuller bodied with more spice and earth and a silky texture.”

-Rich Mauro, November 2016

### *Vinous*

“The 2013 Pinot Noir Santa Maria Valley is made from 100% Presqu’ile estate fruit. Sweet floral and savory notes lift from the glass, followed by pretty red stone fruit nuances. Pliant and expressive, the 2013 **captures the style of this Santa Maria site in its open-knit, perfumed personality**. Crushed flowers, rose petal and sweet red berries are laced into the savory, saline-inflected finish. The 2013 was vinified with 47% whole clusters and spent 18 months in French oak barrels, 55% new. 2015-2021.” **90 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Antonio Galloni, August 2015

### *Wine Review Online*

“Although something of a fruit bomb, the Santa Maria bottling of pinot noir from Presqu’ile is a sure-fire crowd-pleaser for those pinotfiles who enjoy a wine that is plump and juicy and goes down easy. This wine is soft and supple on the palate, shows ripe cherry aroma, with accent notes of cola and spice. **And though hardly cheap, the price is modest for a pinot of such quality.**” **90 Points**

-Robert Whitley, May 2016

### *Wine Review Online*

“Presqu’ile seemingly does everything right. Take this Pinot Noir, for example—a lacey combination of red fruit flavors and spice. It’s not overdone in a Pinot Syrah; style, but rather captures the subtleties of the variety as it dances across the palate...it’s lovely to drink now with grilled salmon.” **90 Points**

-Michael Apstein, October 2016

### *FSR Magazine*

**“New and notable labels from around the globe”**

#### **2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**

“A spicy bouquet with a trace of ocean air kicks off the palate before fielding notes of pomegranates and cranberries that ease into a peppery finish.”

-Kristine Hansen, June 2016

### *The Daily Meal*

**“Presqu’ile Winery Impresses with Distinctive Santa Barbara Wines”**

**“Thrilling Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and more for your taste buds”**

“In the world of wine, it’s always a thrill to discover an innovative producer who creates exciting wines. Such is the case for me with Presqu’ile Winery. I found the wines to be worth noting for anyone who loves well-made examples of those grapes Each wine is distinct while sharing similar characteristics. The wines are loaded with typicity that speaks of the variety in question. **There’s a sense of place in these wines** that screams of the cooler climate in which they’re grown. And more than anything else, **each wine has remarkable texture and impressive mouthfeel** that ties the grapes together like an invisible connective tissue. The next time I’m anywhere near the winery, I’ll make a beeline for Presqu’ile. In the meantime, I’ll keep drinking its beautiful wines; you should too!”

#### **2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**

“Three clones of pinot noir (115, 777, 667) were used for this wine. All of the fruit (100 percent pinot) came from the estate vineyard. Aging took place over 18 months in French oak of which 55 percent was new oak. Wild strawberry and rip red cherry aromas leap from the nose. Cranberry, pomegranate and bits of bay leaf are evident on the deep palate. Bits of roasted beet, cinnamon and clove emerge on the impressive finish. **This is a gorgeous example of pinot noir that will demand you return to the glass for one sip after another.**”

-Gabe Sasso, April 2016

*Sunset Magazine*

**“The Grand Wine Tour”**

“The world’s best wines, irresistible food, and some amazing surprises. Join *Sunset* on a mile-by-mile journey through three of the West’s most exciting wine regions: Napa, Santa Barbara, and Southern Oregon.”

**“Santa Barbara County”**

**Presqu’ile Winery**

“It’s pronounced press-keel and in Creole means ‘almost an island,’ after the Gulf Coast land the Murphy family owned before Hurricane Katrina propelled them to pull up stakes and start a California winery. The angular hilltop building has views extending to the Pacific, source of the cooling winds Presqu’ile’s Sauv Blanc and Pinot grapes adore. **We Recommend: – 2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir”**

-Sara Schneider, October 2015

*Restaurant Wine*

**“Wines & Wineries to Watch”**

“Two excellent 2013 Pinot Noirs.”

**2013 Presqu’ile Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir**

“The Santa Maria is a supple, full bodied, ripely flavored wine with moderate aging potential. It has strawberry and cherry fruitiness, with rosehips, tobacco, herb, and pepper overtones. Long, persistent finish. Fine quality.”

**4 Stars: Excellent quality for its type, style, and price. Among the very best of its type for its price.**

**Highly recommended**

-Ronn Wiegand, August 2015

*Wine Review Online*

**“The Expression of a Place”**

“Presqu’ile (pronounced press-KEEL) is a fairly new winery in the Santa Maria Valley that I had not been familiar with until I tasted through its current releases. Run by two generations of the Murphy family, the operation features a 73-acre vineyard estate just 16 miles from the Pacific Ocean, at altitudes from 700 to 1000 feet. The transverse mountain ranges that border the Santa Maria Valley carry cool maritime weather inward and enable the Murphys’ goal of growing cool-climate Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc... **the wines show a beautiful combination of subtlety, textural richness, flavor complexity and unmistakable varietal character.** Other current releases are the 2013 Santa Maria Valley Chardonnay and **2013 Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir, both very good wines and worth trying.”**

-Mary Ewing-Mulligan, December 2015

## **2012 SANTA MARIA VALLEY PINOT NOIR**

*Vinous*

“Vivid red. Energetic red berry, rose and Asian spice aromas are deepened by notes of cola and licorice. Taut and linear on entry, then fleshier and broader in the mid-palate, offering sappy raspberry and bitter cherry flavors and a touch of mocha. Shows impressive energy and thrust, finishing on a note of tangy berry skin, with lingering spiciness and just a hint of dusty tannins.” **91 Points: Outstanding. A wine of remarkable personality and breed that is well worth seeking out**

-Josh Raynolds, December 2014