

Estate expression • Elevated vineyards • Rare

Our Highland Estates wines showcase our estate properties located on mountains, ridges, hillsides and benchlands in cool coastal California vineyards. This series is all about *terroir*. Each label has a pictorial representation of the estate vineyard from which the fruit was sourced. The combination of soil, elevation and climate on each estate is a key contributor to the wine's powerful style.

## SECO HIGHLANDS

### 2005 PINOT NOIR

ARROYO SECO

#### STATISTICAL INFORMATION

**Appellation:**

Arroyo Seco

**Composition:**

100% Pinot Noir

**Barrel Aging:**

Aged 10 months in French oak barrels, 28% new

**Cases Produced:** 1,363

**Alcohol:** 14.5

**TA:** .57 g/100 ml

**pH:** 3.87

#### ACCOLADES

*87 Points*

*"A crisp, cool climate example of Pinot offering cranberry, tart cherry, earth, and oak characteristics."*

Robert M. Parker, Jr.

*The Wine Advocate*, 12/26/06

#### KEY POINTS

**Elevation:** 250 – 350 feet above sea level.

**Source:** Arroyo Seco in Monterey County, 100% Pinot Noir

**Clonal Selection:** 115, 2A, 667 and 777, latter two known as the "Boeing" clones. From Blocks 1-A1, 1-A4 and 1-A2. Vineyards slope east with a VSP (Vertical Shoot Positioned) canopy system with one cluster per shoot, 11 shoots per meter. Rootstock S04 with row direction 66 degrees from true north.

**Soil:** Western slope of Arroyo Seco region that is an alluvial bench of sandy loam and gravel soils.

**Flavor Profile:** Black cherry and ripe strawberry fruit with soft, velvety tannins. Integrated oak imparts a hint of smoke on top of the fruit and earth in the nose. This lush, sensuous wine is unfiltered.

**Climate:** Quite windy, yet nestled against the Santa Lucia mountains reducing the wind factor. Fog is usually thick, coming daily from the Monterey Bay like clockwork.

