

## THREE SAINTS

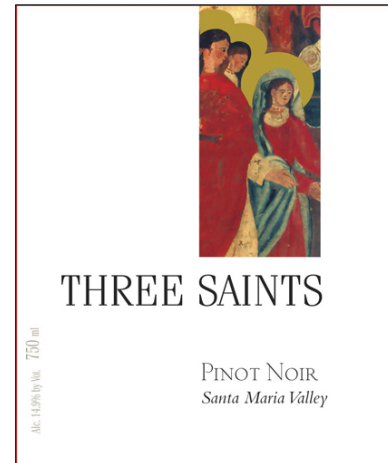
Jim and Mary Dierberg are no newcomers to wine. Since 1974, they've owned one of America's oldest wineries, Hermannhof, located in their home state of Missouri. Developing an initial passion for wine during their early trips to Germany during the 1960s, the couple discovered that an old winery in Hermann, Missouri – founded in 1852 – was for sale, and they bought it.



The wines at Hermannhof are good, but the Missouri climate is not conducive to growing the European varietals that have made France and California famous, and so, it was only a matter of time before the couple sought a new winemaking perspective. In 1996, they purchased Star Lane. After consultation with renowned Central Coast grower Dale Hampton and soil scientist Paul Skinner, the Dierberg's realized that the land was best suited to growing Cabernet and its related varietals.

Starting with 100 acres in 1996, they later bought a cooler vineyard site better suited to Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, a bit farther north in Santa Maria. In January of 2004 they added a new property in the Santa Rita Hills, also suitable for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay, and called these two vineyards, fittingly, Dierberg. Practicing organic viticulture, the winemaking couple are constructing their dream winery on the Star Lane property. It's dug into the hillside for efficient use of energy and will host some 26,000 square feet of caves for barrel aging.

## PINOT NOIR



**Varietal/Blend:** 100% Pinot Noir

**Vineyard:** Dierberg Vineyard

**Farming:** sustainable

**Soil:** sand and loam

**Ave Year Vines Planted:** 1991–2001

**Fermentation:** stainless steel fermentation / pressed, racked, and then sent to finish in neutral barrels

**Aging:** 5 months in second-use French barrels

**Alcohol:** 14.%

**Yeast:** natural

**Fined:** none

**Filtered:** light

**Country:** United States

**Region:** California

**Sub Region:** Santa Maria Valley

Three Saints Pinot Noir is comprised of fruit from the Dierberg Estate Vineyards in the Santa Maria Valley and Santa Rita Hills. Three Saints Pinot Noir accurately reflects the contributions from these exceptional vineyards. It shows the power and intensity of the hillside Santa Rita fruit, comprised with the complexity, balance and aromatic expressions from our Santa Maria estate vineyard.