

DIERBERG

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.

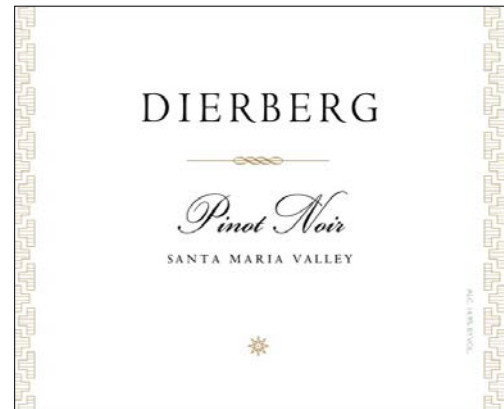


The wines at Hermannhof are good, but the Missouri climate is not conducive to growing the European varietals that have made France and California famous, and so, it was only a matter of time before the couple sought a new winemaking perspective. In 1996, they purchased Star Lane. After consultation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

“SANTA MARIA VALLEY”



Varietal/Blend: 100% Pinot Noir

Farming: sustainable

Soil: alluvial deposits / sandy Loam

Ave Year Vines Planted: 1992

Harvest Technique: harvested by soil type, across several different blocks, rather than by discreet clonal selections / in September

Fermentation: partially destemmed / extended maceration / barreled-down to a mix of new and used French oak barrels

Aging: exclusively used French oak for 15 months in 2013 / bottled in December 2014

Alcohol: 14.8%

Yeast: natural

Fined: none

Filtered: light

Dierberg Vineyard is situated atop a sandy loam mesa above the south bank of the Santa Maria River, in the near-extreme Western portion of the Santa Maria AVA. Its proximity to the ocean makes it one of the coolest vineyards in the appellation. Our vineyard is planted with 11 different clones of Pinot Noir including approximately 60% Dijon (667, 777, 115), and 40% Heritage clones that trace their provenance to Europe (Burgundy, Epernay, Switzerland). This clonal diversity empowers our winemaker to make a nuanced and complex Pinot Noir.

Country: California

Region: Santa Ynez

Sub Region: Santa Maria Valley