

2009 Santa Lucia Highlands Pinot Noir

50% Rosella's Vineyard and 50% Garys' Vineyard

Appellation: Santa Lucia Highlands

Clones: Pisoni, 777 and 113

Alcohol: 14.5%

pH: 3.69

TA: 5.8 g/L

Barrel aging: 16 months in 40% new and 60% 1, 2 and 3 year old French oak

Cases produced: 228

The '09 Sandler SLH Pinot is a slightly more restrained wine than the other 2009 Sandler Pinots (Keefer and Clos Pepe) due to barrel selection, extended barrel aging time, and most importantly, the cool weather during the fall of '09 in the Santa Lucia Highlands. The spicy SLH aromas are lifted in the nose by some pretty French oak. The palate has a soft, fleshy entry then quickly bursts open with some sweet cherry cola flavors, nice acidity and ends with a very long finish of oak and fruit. It should be at its best from 2012 to 2016.

