

Pinot Noir Press



WINDRUN VINTNERS

A tiny Santa Barbara County-based winery solely focused on producing Pinot Noir from the prime vineyards of coastal California - and earning big accolades in the process.



Windrun Vintners is a relatively new Santa Barbara County based winery focused on crafting premium Pinot Noir and Chardonnay from the Central Coast's top vineyards. After selecting only the best grapes from these highly desirable properties, the fruit is carefully blended together to express the finest characteristics of each varietal, emphasizing the aromatics and balanced flavors that each is capable of.

Windrun Vintners was founded in 2010 by Lance Mason and legendary California winemaker, Ken Brown. It was Lance's lifelong interest in wine that brought him to some of the most famous wine growing regions in the world and his travels only fueled his desire to one day develop a winery of his own. When an opportunity was presented to work with veteran winemaker Ken Brown on California's Central Coast, Lance jumped at the chance and Windrun Vintners was born.

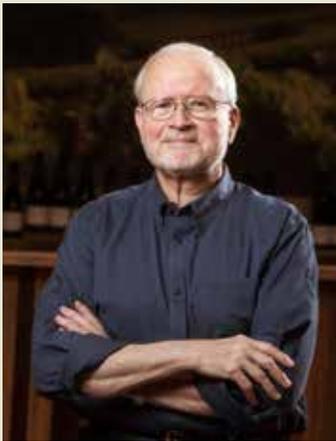
Ken Brown is one of Santa Barbara County's pioneer winemakers and was among the first vintners to realize the great promise for Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in this cool-climate appellation in the mid 1970's. He was also the first winemaker to introduce the Syrah grape, as well as Pinot Gris and Pinot Blanc, to Santa Barbara County. Starting as the first winemaker for Zaca Mesa Winery in 1977, Ken

has produced countless highly acclaimed wines on California's Central Coast throughout his career. He established Byron Vineyard and Winery in 1984 (sold to Robert Mondavi in 1990) and founded his namesake Ken Brown Wines in 2003. Over the years, he has made excellent connections with the best growers and vintners in Santa Barbara County, which is of course a great advantage for Windrun Vintners as well.

The name of the winery, 'Windrun,' comes from a meteorological term for measuring the flow of cool breezes through a vineyard in the afternoon and evening. These breezes are critical to the development of Burgundian grapes like Pinot Noir and Chardonnay that require a long, cool growing season, and are quite common in California's coastal vineyards (from which all of Windrun's grapes are sourced). Winemaker Ken Brown focuses specifically on Sta. Rita Hills, Santa Barbara County, and coastal California for Windrun's exclusive lineup of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay.

Among Windrun's many awards earned over the years, perhaps the biggest accomplishment was being named the **Sta. Rita Hills Winery of the Year** in 2016 at the *New York Intl. Wine Competition*. We hope you enjoy Windrun's latest achievement. Cheers!





ABOUT THE WINEMAKER

A pioneer in Santa Barbara County, Ken Brown has devoted his career to the pursuit of great Pinot Noir. His craft is his passion and with a hands-on approach through every phase of the winegrowing process, he ensures every bottle is made with the utmost attention to care and quality. From his earliest days at Zaca Mesa to his 20-year tenure at Byron Vineyard, and his current endeavors with Windrun and his own family operation, Ken Brown Wines, he has continued to experiment with clones, rootstocks, soils, and winemaking techniques, exploring the tremendous potential for Pinot Noir in Santa Barbara County. Experience tells him that great achievements still lie ahead, and it is in that spirit that he continues the quest for the next echelon of quality in Pinot Noir.

WINDRUN 2015 PINOT NOIR

Sta. Rita Hills

The Windrun 2015 Pinot Noir is an excellent example of the complex character for which wines from this area of the Sta. Rita Hills are known. It shows the beautiful complex character of its famous terroir, with a dark garnet color and soft, sumptuous mouthfeel with notes of wild blackberry, earth, and allspice, followed by a luscious, long finish. Aged in oak. 100% Pinot Noir. Enjoy now until 2023.

93 POINTS

– *Wine Enthusiast*
magazine

90 POINTS

– *Wine Spectator*



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