

# 2008 Highflyer Pinot Noir

Santa Lucia Highlands / Doctor's Vineyard

## Highflyer

At Highflyer, we work with small, family-owned, benchmark vineyards throughout California where terroir and variety are in perfect alignment. We harvest fruit from the Santa Lucia Highlands, Santa Maria Valley, Sonoma Valley, Santa Barbara and Napa Valley to produce wines that are thought-provoking, varietally and regionally accurate and delicious. Our name references our winemaker/owner Craig Becker's other great passion in life: aviation. As a private pilot Craig can fly to a distant region, walk the site, meet with the vineyard management team to ensure our strict farming protocols are being followed and still be home in time for dinner.

## Vineyards

Doctors Vineyard is in the heart of the Santa Lucia Highlands. This remarkably managed property has well drained soils of sandy loam and gravel. We sourced three clones, from three small vineyard blocks to complete our 2008 blend: 828 (richness), Calera (brightness) and Swan (texture). Each of these vineyard blocks are planted between 500 and 900 feet above sea level.

## Weather

The 2008 growing season began with cool spring temperatures which led to late but perfect flowering conditions. Summer months were mild to warm with two short heat spikes in August. A warm start to September forced an early harvest but resulted in intense flavors, gentle acids and moderate sugar levels.

## Winemaking

In 2008 we produced only 15 barrels. Aged for 11 months in 100% French oak, 20% of which were new. This vintage shows intensity, depth, focus and purity of Pinot flavor, with tiers of concentrated cherry, wild berry, raspberry and plum. Supple, fleshy, full-bodied and persistent, ending with firm, yet supple tannins.

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<b>BRIX AT HARVEST: 26.5</b>		RS: 0.10 G/100 ML
TA: 0.63 G/100 ML	PRODUCTION: 425 CASES	ALCOHOL: 14.0%
APPELLATION: NAPA VALLEY	HARVEST DATE: SEPT 10TH	
Craig Becker WINEMAKER / PILOT		PH: 3.56

