## LUCIA

## BY THE PISONI FAMILY SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS



Lucia is the sister label of the Pisoni Estate wines. Whereas Pisoni Estate is committed to a single expression of the Pisoni Vineyards, Lucia represents the collection of vineyards that the Pisoni Family farms: Pisoni Vineyards, Soberanes Vineyard and Garys' Vineyard (the latter two farmed in partnership with Gary Franscioni).



Headed by family matriarch Jane, the Pisoni family has been farming for three generations in the Santa Lucia Highlands. The Pisoni family's goal: grow exceptional grapes to make exceptional wine. Wines made by the Pisoni family are bottled under the Pisoni Estate and Lucia labels.

Gary and his two sons, Mark and Jeff, farm and produce Pinot Noir, Chardonnay and Syrah from their three vineyards in the Santa Lucia Highlands: Pisoni, Garys' and Soberanes vineyards. These vineyards and wines represent an extreme commitment to farming and classical winemaking.

"Few growers have had as big an impact on the Santa Lucia Highlands as Gary Pisoni."

Wine Spectator – May 2015

## SANTA LUCIA HIGHLANDS



The Santa Lucia Highlands is California's premier, cool climate winegrowing district. Approximately 6,000 acres of vinifera are under cultivation in the Santa Lucia Highlands, with Pinot Noir and Chardonnay the predominant varietals.

The earliest vinifera plantings, in what would become the Santa Lucia Highlands appellation, took place in the 1790s, with the arrival of the first Spanish missionaries. The modern era, however, began in the early 1970s, with a second wave of vineyard development in the 1980s and 1990s.

The vineyards of the Highlands are planted on the terraces of the Santa Lucia mountain range, overlooking the Salinas River Valley. Here, fogs and breezes off nearby Monterey Bay funnel southeast, between the Santa Lucia and Gabilan ranges, creating a cool, true Region I climate. The vines elevated sites take full advantage of the morning sunshine before the stiff, afternoon maritime winds slow down photosynthesis, making for long, gentle ripening. The exceptionally long Santa Lucia Highlands growing season of early bud break, lack of fall rains, and prolonged harvests allow the grapes to develop full, phenolic ripeness and flavor.

