

2021 PINOT NOIR Sonoma Coast

APPELLATION Sonoma Coast HARVEST DATE September 9, 13 and 28th, 2021

pH 3.5

TA 6.18

ABV 13.5%

CASES PRODUCED 454

BARREL REGIMEN Aged in medium toast, Francois Frere French Oak Barrels 15% new

RELEASE DATE March 2023

VINTAGE NOTES

The spring of 2021 was an extremely dry. There was very little rain that winter and we moved back into serious drought conditions by early spring. On 4/19/2021 the water from Lake Mendocino was shut off at our Redwood Valley Grape Ranch (and remains shut off as of 8/9/22). No water at all was made available for Agriculture. The lack of soil moisture led to weaker shoot growth and very poor fruit set. Coastal sites with more fog and general ambient moisture did better. Inland vineyards were the most affected. Overall the crop in Sonoma County was about 15% below normal. Coming on the heels of the total disaster of 2020 (which had two major fires in the middle of the growing season) this left wineries scrambling to find fruit. The 2021 vintage is excellent but small.

TASTING NOTES

We source our Pinot Noir three different sites in the Sonoma Coast. We are always focused first on the vineyard site, second on the farming, and third on the winemaking. Our Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir is predominantly from our Gap's View Vineyard in 2021, but, also includes fruit from Platt and from our River Road Grape Farm. We used about 30% new French cooperage on the 2021 cuvee.

The nose offers Cherry Blossom and Orange Blossom. On the palate there are notes of Red Cherry, Pomegranate, and Cola. This is a classic Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir with a lovely texture and abundant, but subtle, structure. (E.g. it has a lot of structure but not like Cabernet. It is softer and rounder with very supple tannins)

The Sonoma Coast is the only place I source Pinot Noir from. I believe that the top New World Pinot Noirs come predominantly from this special slice of Sonoma County.

