



# Russian River Valley

VINTAGE 2021 · SONOMA COUNTY · PINOT NOIR

The Russian River Valley Pinot Noir elegantly conveys its sense of place. Superbly structured, it showcases an exquisite array of cranberries and cherry cola, complemented by savory spices and a hint of black tea.

#### VINTAGE OBSERVATIONS

California is currently facing a historic drought, with only a third of our normal rainfall and a dry spring. In response, our vineyard team focused on closely monitoring vine needs and soil moisture to navigate the challenging season. Fortunately, we enjoyed a perfect spring and summer with no weather extremes, followed by a typical cool-down in early August and ideal ripening conditions throughout harvest.

#### VINEYARD SOURCING

Our Owsley and Vine Hill vineyards in the Russian River Valley provided the Pinot Noir for this vintage. The Owsley ranch's dramatic temperature shifts from warm days to cool, foggy nights yield grapes with concentrated, complex flavors. Vine Hill's elevation changes of over 400 feet allow each ridge, slope, and valley to impart unique characteristics to the grapes. Combined with diverse soils, clones, high-density spacing, and rootstocks that limit excessive growth, the Owsley and Vine Hill vineyards produce a stunning array of elegant fruit.

#### WINEMAKING PROCESS

Grapes were hand-picked early each morning into small bins, then hand-sorted and gently destemmed. The wine underwent a four-day cold soak followed by eight to twelve days of fermentation, with hand punch-downs in small, open-top fermenters. After fermentation, it was gently basket pressed and gravity racked into barrels, where it aged for 11 months before the final blend was assembled and bottled for an additional six months.

#### TASTING NOTES

This wine features a deep, rich ruby-purple hue with elegant aromas of red berries, cranberry, cherry cola, savory spices, a hint of black tea, fresh earth and sweet vanilla from oak aging. It is beautifully structured with smooth tannins that enhance the warm spice and red berry flavors, balanced acidity, a juicy core and a medium-length finish.

**COMPOSITION:** 100% PINOT NOIR

**VINEYARDS:** 78% OWSLEY, 22% VINE HILL, 2% LES PIERRES

**FERMENTATION:** 100% TANK

**BARREL AGING:** AGED FOR 11 MONTHS IN FRENCH OAK, 33% NEW, 33% 1-YEAR-OLD, 33% 2-YEAR-OLD

**ALCOHOL:** 14.3% · **TOTAL ACIDITY:** 5.9 G/L · **PH:** 3.60

