



WINEMAKER'S RELEASE GRAND BRUT ROSÉ RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY 2019

OBSERVATIONS ON A NEW VINTAGE

Vintage 2019 will be remembered for the unrelenting amount of rain we received in northern California. With almost double the average rainfall combined with late spring rains, the season got off to a late, slow start. However, the summer saw no extremes, just superb California weather. The growing season remained perfect up to and through harvest which set us up for a classic vintage.

The first fruit for this wine came from our Vine Hill Ranch and was picked almost two weeks later than normal. The rosé fruit from our Owsley vineyard was picked two weeks later. Grapes from both vineyards showcased beautiful, bright fruit flavors and great acidity.

OUR ESTATE VINEYARDS

Our Owsley Estate consists of ten unique vineyard blocks of Pinot Noir. Owsley is known for its dramatic temperature changes from warm days to cool, foggy nights. The constant fluctuating temperatures create concentrated and complex flavors in the grapes.

Vine Hill Ranch, located in the heart of the Russian River Valley, has more than a 300-ft. elevation change that allows each ridge, slope, and valley in the vineyard to contribute unique characteristics to the grapes. Combined with a variety of soils, clones and rootstocks that limit excessive vine growth, the vineyard provides a beautiful variety of elegant and balanced fruit.

ON THE WINE

Grapes for this wine were picked by hand at night and placed into small bins before being hand-sorted and whole cluster pressed. Careful attention was given to lightly pressing the berries to yield a juice that presented both a delicate color and bright, fruit characteristics. The juice was then fermented in stainless steel prior to tirage bottling in January of 2020. As with all sparkling wine produced by méthode traditionnelle, the secondary fermentation occurs in the bottle. Bottles rested on tirage at our winery until being disgorged on May 6th, 2022. The wine was then bottle aged prior to release.

Our 2019 sparkling wine is a cuvéé of Pinot Noir and Chardonnay fruit. Delicate, fine beads rise-up through your glass as the wine is poured. Fragrant aromas of hibiscus flower, red-sour cherry and a touch of watermelon rim are complemented with fresh brioche bread and mandarin citrus notes. On the palate, mandarin and kumquat, citrus fruit, a touch of wet stone minerality and light cherry flavors are balanced with Sonoma-Cutrer's signature acidity. This sparkler is a perfect pairing with goat cheese, fruit tarts or fresh oysters with salmon caviar.

Alcohol by Vol 12% • TA: 9.8 g/L • pH: 3.0 • RS: Brut • 70% Pinot Noir + 30% Chardonnay
100% Whole Cluster Direct to Press • 100% Tank Fermented
Appellation: Russian River Valley



SONOMA-CUTRER®

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