



## VINE HILL PINOT NOIR

VINTAGE 2022 • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY • ESTATE BOTTLED

### OBSERVATIONS ON A NEW VINTAGE

Despite the optimism that followed last fall's promising season, the first three months of the year turned out to be the driest on record. Even with some substantial spring rain, California remains in its third year of what is now referred to as a mega-drought, impacting much of the western United States.

As in previous drought years, careful monitoring of vine needs and soil moisture helped us navigate a challenging season. Fortunately, we were blessed with a perfect spring and summer, free of extreme weather, followed by a beautiful August and the welcome return of the fog.

### OUR VINE HILL ESTATE VINEYARD

Our Vine Hill Vineyard, in the heart of the Russian River Valley, with its nearly 300-ft. elevation change, 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 were picked by hand early each morning into small bins and hand-sorted before a gentle destemming. During the four-day cold soak and the eight-to-twelve-day fermentation, the wine was punched down by hand in small, open-top fermenters. Once ready, the wine was gently pressed using a basket press and gravity-racked into barrels. The aging process for our Pinot Noir utilizes a regimen of one-third each new, once-used, and twice-used French oak. After aging in barrel for fourteen months, the final blend was assembled for bottling.

This Pinot Noir opens with a captivating aroma of blackberry, blue raspberry and cassis jam, enriched by a subtle hint of nutmeg. On the palate, juicy flavors of Santa Rosa plums are beautifully balanced with earthy undertones and velvety tannins. This wine's structure is well-crafted, leading to a long, savory finish that lingers elegantly. The harmonious blend of ripe fruit and earthiness makes this Pinot Noir a refined and satisfying experience, making it an ideal selection on its own or as a companion for a variety of dishes.

Alcohol 14.4% • TA: 6.3 gms/L • pH: 3.55 • 100% Pinot Noir  
Vineyard Designation: Vine Hill Ranch  
Fermentation: 100% Stainless steel tank • 100% Malolactic  
French oak aged for a total of 14 months - 33% New, 33% 1 yr, 33% 2 yr



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Please enjoy our wines responsibly.

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