

WILLIAMS SELYEM



2020 Allen Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER NOTES

Cherry and macerated strawberry notes come through on the nose, while fresh herbs, hints of crushed rocks, and cocoa belie the fruit. With some air, a rich Allen perfume emerges with hints of dried rose petals. Refined in the mouth, the essence of minerals and the tea-like tannin structure coalesce with fruit flavors to create a wine with both power and elegance.

THE VINEYARD

The Allen Vineyard surrounds our winemaking facility. This Russian River Valley hillside vineyard was planted in the early 1970s, and produces low yields of exceptional quality Pinot Noir.

HARVEST 2020

The 2020 growing season started out very dry and bud break was delayed. Early spring rains recharged the soil profile, but periods of extreme cold caused many frost events throughout the Russian River Valley. Late spring yielded ample sunshine and moderate temperatures, and the plants responded very well with excellent canopy growth. The season ended up approximately 12% warmer than average and did not have any heat spikes until August. Harvest started in haste on August 12, ahead of an extreme heat wave. On the night of August 17, the weather changed and there was a rare dry lightning storm that sparked a fire on a hillside in remote west Sonoma County; later named the Walbridge Fire. In the Russian River Valley, it took a number of days for smoke to settle. Based on test result for smoke taint on the grapes, several coastal vineyards were not picked. For the vineyards which were picked, either before the fire or before the smoke settled, the result was concentrated wines with a darker, more brooding complexion. The polish of the tannin, coupled with excellent concentration, should allow for a wide drinking window.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 56% new, 44% 1 yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.46

TA: 0.63g/100mL

Alc: 13.8%

Release Fall 2022

\$100

