

# 2020 Vista Verde Vineyard Pinot Noir

## WINEMAKER NOTES

Layered and complex, the lively aromatics of the 2020 Vista Verde Vineyard Pinot Noir showcase berry fruits, woody spices, and dried rose petals, while a citrus peel note further energizes the nose. Tangy and refreshing on the palate, the wine has berry fruit flavors with a sensation of black tea. Beneath the tea-like tannins, a streak of minerality, which is well-known for these limestone-rich soils, is nicely layered into the mid-palate and extends all the way through the lengthy finish.

## THE VINEYARD

Vista Verde Vineyard is located a couple miles southeast of Hollister, California, near the small town of Tres Pinos in San Benito County. This heavy limestone vineyard is separated into blocks that include clones such as Calera, Canada, and Swan.

### 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: 67% new, 33% 1 yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.47

TA: 0.60g/100mL

Alc: 13.8%

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\$70

