

WILLIAMS SELYEM



2018 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Red fruited at first nosing; the wine showcases a floral character beloved in Russian River Valley Pinot Noirs. There is an earthy, dried herb component mixed with a touch of bergamot which adds to the complexity to the kaleidoscope of aromas. A burst of red fruits mix with flavors of Earl Grey tea on the round but well-balanced palate, and the acidity keeps the wine fresh on the tongue.

THE VINEYARDS

The Pinot Noir for this blend was sourced from the Orsi Vineyard, the Martaella Vineyard, the Bucher Vineyard and our Drake Estate Vineyard.

HARVEST 2018

The winter months were very dry with unseasonably warm weather in the early part of the season. By mid-February the rains had returned; nearly doubling the total rainfall and staving off early budbreak. The much-needed rains continued through March resulting in budbreak for the larger part of Westside Road by month-end. The remainder of the spring saw additional rainfall with spates of warm weather interspersed. The plants responded well under these near-perfect vegetative cycle conditions. Flowering commenced in June under ideal temperatures. Subsequently, below-average temperatures ensued for a week and a half which extended the bloom schedule. The net effect of the cooling trend created a looser cluster and some millerandage or “hens and chicks,” a highly desirable trait for many reasons including better phenolic development and better air flow through the cluster to prevent mold. Heading into the season, crop loads were near-historic averages with great vine balance. Harvest started on the 16th of August under ideal conditions with moderate, consistent temperatures. Vintage highlights include site specificity and elegance, while displaying concentration and balance—another great Williams Selyem year in the making.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 43% new, 57% 1 yr.

Barrel Aged: 12 months

pH: 3.52

TA: 0.65g/100mL

Alc: 14.1%

Released Spring 2020

\$58

