

WILLIAMS SELYEM



2020 Bucher Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER NOTES

In this offering from the Bucher Vineyard, dark red raspberry fruit notes are intertwined with an earthy, loamy character, which is typical of the site. Hints of dried herbs further complex this brooding wine. In the mouth, the wine exhibits big, yet very refined tannin, with dark red fruit flavors and a meaty undertone. Give this wine few years of age and a creamier texture will reveal itself.

THE VINEYARD

The Bucher Vineyard is located about 1½ miles north of our winemaking facility on Westside Road. The clones planted include 777, 115, 37, and Pommard 4, with an Arbuckle gravelly loam soil.

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: 60% new, 40% 1 yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.49

TA: 0.62g/100mL

Alc: 14.1%

Released Fall 2022

\$75

