

2021 Bucher Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER NOTES

Beautifully balanced notes of raspberry fruit mix with the earthy quality that always typifies this unique site. A hint of evergreen allows for an airiness that highlights the wine and together helps capture the intrigue of the aromatics. In the mouth, the flavors of summer-ripened raspberries mix with black cherry, along with hints of allspice. The mid-palate is highlighted with an earthy flavor and transitions to a tannin structure that lingers wonderfully on the palate. The round tannin profile will allow for

near-term enjoyment but can develop with additional cellar time as well.

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 gravely loam soil.

HARVEST 2021

The 2021 growing season experienced only about 14 inches of rain, challenging the plants from the outset of the year. Late winter and early spring were cold and dry, bringing some uneven growth and stress to the plants. The canopies were a little smaller than average going into the flowering, however the weather was ideal and mild. Flowering determines quality and quantity, so it is the most important time. The 2021 season yielded an average to slightly below average crop size with outstanding quality. Largely, the growing season saw mild temperatures but with several scattered heat events. 2021 thankfully saw the return of the fog, which saved the vintage by keeping the nighttime temperatures cool, refreshing the plants, and keeping them hydrated under severe conditions. Due to the changing climate, fog intrusion has been minimal the last few vintages. The 2021 season finished up around the historical average for temperatures. Despite the inauspicious start to the year, the wines showcase terrific verve, character, and site specificity.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 59% new, 41% 1 yr. Barrel Aged: 16 months pH: 3.45 TA: 0.61g/100mL Alc: 13.9% Released Fall 2023 \$75

