

# **2021 Foss Vineyard Pinot Noir**

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Fresh berry and cedar box aromas combine into a complex, earthy undertone. Asian spice notes add to the wonderfully layered nose. Hints of Costa Rican coffee further add to the brooding aromatics. Supple and round, the sensation of the tannins is quite elegant and polished. The acidity in the midpalate lifts the berry flavors and carries the wine to a balanced and polished finish.

### THE VINEYARD

The Foss Vineyard sits above Eastside Road in the Middle Reach region of the Russian River Valley. With a fine, clay loam soil type and a temperate microclimate, this site is extremely well drained and therefore an excellent site for Pinot Noir. Planted to Pommard, Swan, and Mt. Eden, together they offer a rich and complex palette to draw from in blending this incredibly rich and complex wine.

### 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: 61% new, 39% 1 yr. Barrel Aged: 16 months pH: 3.50 TA: 0.60g/100mL Alc: 13.9% Released Fall 2023 \$75

