

WILLIAMS SELYEM



2021 Rochioli Riverblock Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER NOTES

A perennial powerhouse wine, the 2021 Rochioli Riverblock is a showstopper. Layers of dark berry fruit and notes of cedar dominate the nose. Forest-like notes of sous bois and dried herbs add a depth that is compelling and utterly mind-boggling. The Old River Block was planted in 1989 with cuttings from the oldest vines on the property dating back to the 1960s. Often the berries are tiny and that translates into a wine with tremendous extract. Vibrant and fresh in the mouth, the extract is so perfectly balanced that the palate remains light on its feel while completely saturating the palate. Wow!

THE VINEYARD

The Rochioli Riverblock Vineyard is located six miles southwest of the town of Healdsburg, banking the Russian River. Fog-cooled evenings and moderately warm daytime temperatures make the Russian River Valley region ideal for growing Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes.

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: 70% new, 30% 1 yr.

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.40

TA: 0.60g/100mL

Alc: 13.9%

Released Fall 2023

\$100

