

2021 Vista Verde Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER NOTES

Aromas of plum and berry are interlaced with wood spices, citrus, and hibiscus. An intriguing balsam-like element adds a complex, captivating depth. A juiciness in the mouth keeps everything lively as the wine flows across the palate with flavors of berry and bergamot with strong finish of Assam tea. Hidden in the layers of richness is the signature crushed rock and mineral note that further adds body, texture, and complexity.

THE VINEYARD

Vista Verde Vineyard is located a couple miles southeast of Hollister, California, near the small town of Tres Pinos in San Benito County. This heavy limestone vineyard is separated into blocks that include clones such as Calera, Canada, and Swan.

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: 60% new, 40% 1 yr. Barrel Aged: 16 months pH: 3.34 TA: 0.60g/100mL Alc: 13.6% Released Fall 2023 \$70

