



The Wine
Independent

DuMOL

Critical Acclaim for DuMOL's 2021 vintage
Lisa Perrotti-Brown MW, July 2023

2021 DuMOL Estate Pinot Noir

98

The 2021 Pinot Noir Estate Vineyard is a blend of Calera and Swan clones with a little 943. Pale to medium ruby purple in color, it rolls effortlessly out of the glass with fragrant notes of wild strawberries, kirsch, and lilacs, followed by hints of dried sage and cracked black pepper with a waft of damp soil. The medium to full-bodied palate is packed with red berry and floral flavors, framed by velvety tannins and beautiful freshness, finishing long with a spicy kick. pH 3.43, ABV 14%, 1,030 cases made.

2021 MacIntyre Estate Pinot Noir

97

No whole-bunch fermentation was used for the 2021 Pinot Noir MacIntyre Estate Vineyard, which comes from a vineyard purchased by DuMOL in 2016. Medium ruby-purple in color, it comes barreling out of the glass with intense scents of raspberries, fresh redcurrants, and baby strawberries with touches of wild thyme, iron ore, and forest floor. The medium-bodied palate is very tightly wound and earthy, featuring very fine-grained tannins and bold freshness to frame the vibrant red fruit, finishing long and mineral-laced. pH 3.56, ABV 14.1%.

2021 Ryan Pinot Noir

96

The 2021 Pinot Noir Ryan is a blend of two Dutton Ranch Vineyards, 56% Widdoes and 44% Jentoft. No whole-cluster fermentation was used. Medium ruby-purple in color, it pops from the glass with evocative, classic scents of black cherries, boysenberries, and pomegranate with suggestions of red roses, forest floor, and cinnamon toast. The medium-bodied palate is seductively plush and juicy, laden with expressive red and black berry layers, finishing long and pure. pH 3.62, ABV 14.1%, 1,196 cases made.

2021 Charles Heintz Isobel Chardonnay

98

After a swirl or two, notes of fresh nectarines, mandarin peel, and grapefruit emerge, leading to touches of honeysuckle, marzipan, and baking bread. The medium-bodied palate delivers electric-charged stone fruit and citrus flavors with a racy backbone and satiny texture, finishing long and zesty. The vineyard was planted in 1982, and this is DuMOL's 20th vintage from here: "This is possibly the finest vintage we've made from here," said winemaker, Andy Smith. "We're the only winery that gets grapes from both blocks/soil types (clay & sand)." pH 3.38, ABV 13.7%, 1,034 cases made.

2021 DuMOL Estate Chardonnay

96

The 2021 Chardonnay Estate swans out of the glass with showy scents of lemon meringue pie, Golden Delicious apples, and fresh pears, giving way to hint of nutmeg, honeyed toast, and lime leaves. The medium to full-bodied palate is jam packed with energetic citrus and mineral flavors, supported by a crisp backbone and creamy texture, finishing long and wonderfully pure. This is a 2.5 acre plateau, planted in 2005 - all Mt Eden selection on a clay-based soil. It is made exclusively in 320-liter "cigar" shaped barrels, with around 25% new oak. pH 3.27, ABV 14.2%, 736 cases made.

2021 Chloe Chardonnay

94

The nose on the 2021 Chardonnay Chloe already delivers fabulous complexity, with notes of orange blossom, cashews, baker's yeast, and honeycomb, opening out to a flamboyant core of apricots, honeydew melon, spiced apples, and juicy pears. The medium to full-bodied palate vibrates with impactful stone fruit and spicy flavors, framed by a racy backbone and a creaminess to the texture, finishing very long and opulent. This is a blend of 3 vineyards, El Diablo (Eastside Vineyard), Flora Marie (right next door), and a block from the Bressay vineyard. Only 50 barrels are made, with 1/3 new oak. pH 3.48, ABV 14.1%, 1,234 cases made.