

Ernest Vineyards

Grand Vent Vineyard

Pinot Noir / 2019

Petaluma Gap

THE VINEYARD: Wind dictates everything at this 15-acre vineyard in Sonoma County. The parcel sits in the mouth of the Petaluma Gap, where a blend of unique terroir, cool climate, and consistent wind yields long hang times that allow flavors to mature slowly and steadily. The majority of the vineyard is Pinot Noir with clones of Pommard 4, Dijon 113, and 667. In his book, *A New California Wine*, Jon Bonne describes the vineyard as “perhaps the most challenging vineyards [in all of California].” Considering the intense flavors of the grapes from this location, we’re happy to take on the challenge of working with grapes farmed from here.

WINEMAKING: The cool late summer temperatures and this incredibly windy site lead to an extra week of hang time. Increasing the amount of 667 clone in our blend has brought a brighter fruit component to this bottling. The use of whole cluster on the Pommard clone provides an earthy structure complimented by the bright red fruit and floral components of the 113 clone. This wine was raised in 500L Puncheon for 18 months and bottled unfined and unfiltered with minimal effective sulfur.

TASTING NOTES: A crimson color with intense purple hues. The aromas are reminiscent of black plums and dried roses. A leafy quality followed by other deeper red and black fruits, both fresh and dried. On the palate, a juiciness to the quality of the fruit, accompanied by spice, and herbal notes of wild sage and black peppercorn. The acidity is bright, highlighting the freshness of the fruit. The tannins frame it all without being over the top. The power of the wine comes from its concentration and complexity of flavors.

ALC. BY VOL: 12.7%

AGING: 38% NEW FRENCH OAK

CLONES: POMMARD, 113, 667

WINEMAKER: JOSEPH RYAN

CASES PRODUCED: 180

HARVEST DATE: 9/18/19

HARVEST BRIX: 22.5

