



EMERITUS VINEYARDS

Estate Grown Pinot Noir

2020 EMERITUS VINEYARDS, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY ESTATE GROWN PINOT NOIR

Vineyard Notes

Emeritus Vineyards was founded in 1999 by legendary vintner Brice Cutrer Jones when he acquired the Hallberg Ranch after selling his first winery, Sonoma-Cutrer. His goal was to create a grand-cru-caliber Pinot Noir estate. In 2008 Emeritus purchased an old farm about 8 miles away and planted the Pinot Hill Vineyard. The two vineyards are now some of the most sought-after sources for Pinot Noir in Sonoma County's Russian River Valley. Hallberg Ranch has been farmed without supplemental irrigation—dry farmed—since 2011, and Pinot Hill since 2013. Dry farming is not a common practice in California because there is not summer rainfall. This method allows the grapes to develop beautifully full flavors without becoming overripe.

Vintage Notes

The 2020 growing season began with a very dry winter, followed by moderate early spring rains. While the spring rains provided enough moisture to saturate the soils, the relatively modest precipitation limited overall canopy growth and led to small clusters of highly concentrated berries. With temperate summer weather and no significant early heat events, there are spectacular flavors from the smaller-than-average crop. At the same time, due to our dry-farming practices, flavors were able to develop at much lower sugars than irrigated vineyards, which is a recipe for beautifully balanced wines.

Tasting Notes

With a deep red-purple color and a beautiful youthful hue, one look at the 2020 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir and you know you're in for a treat. Fruit aromas explode from the glass as soon as the wine is poured. Like a ripe black cherry dipped in chocolate, the aromas are layered, deep and very satisfying. Aspects of each clone and vineyard that make up this wine reveal themselves with just a bit of air – cherry and plum from the 115 and 828 clones, chocolate and loam from the 667, 777, and Pommard, toasted walnuts and nut oil from the 37, and a host of perfume and savory notes from the Elite and Hyde clones. On the palate, there is a lovely tension between the fruit flavors of Hallberg Ranch and the elegant acidity of Pinot Hill.



Appellation	Russian River Valley (Sebastopol)
Vineyard Sources	Hallberg Ranch & Pinot Hill
Varietals	Pinot Noir
Clones	115, 828, 667, 777, Pommard, 37, Elite, Hyde
Soil Series	Goldridge sandy loam underlain with clay soils
Barrel Program	French oak, 22% new, aged 10 months
Bottled	Unfined
Alcohol	13.5%