



2021 Cochon Deep End Pinot Noir, Clow Ridge Vineyard, Anderson Valley (145 Cases Produced) (100% Pinot Noir, Clones: Calera, Swan & 943)

Vineyard: In 2020 we went searching for Pinot Noir sites to replace our smoke tainted grapes in Russian River Valley from the wildfires. I had heard that Anderson Valley had not been affected and I thought it might be the right climate and location to fit our style. I visited Clow Ridge at the western edge of the Anderson Valley in the area known as the Deep End, west of Philo. I didn't think I would ever get there, but I immediately fell in love with this steep southwest-facing mountain, hillside vineyard. Perched at 1000 feet and just 10 miles from the Pacific the vineyard has a strong costal influence. The tiny clysters of Calera, Swan and 943 Pinot Noir were just what we were looking for. The vines benefit from the cooling effects of the Pacific Ocean and the lingering fog which makes for an extra long growing season. The combinations of complex ancient oceanic sedimentary soils, mature vines, Clone and the cooling effects of the Deep End's coastal fog provide the perfect growing conditions for Burgundian style Pinot Noir and help to make this elegant yet structured wine.

Winemaking: The fruit from this site was picked at night and brought to the winery in the early morning hours in mid- September. Half of the fruit was de-stemmed leaving 50% to ferment whole-cluster. Prior to fermentation, the grapes were chilled to 50 degrees in a small open top tank and held for 5 days to cold soak before a natural fermentation began from the grapes own native yeasts. During fermentation the grapes were punched down two times daily for a period of two weeks before being pressed and tranfered to French oak barrels, 35% of which were new, for natural malolactic fermentation and aging. The wine aged in barrel for 28 months before being racked and bottled unfiltered.

The Wine: Vibrant ruby-purple in color, classic aromas of crushed Bing cherries, blood orange, cranberry and pommegranate fruit with hints of violet, strawberry preserves, vanilla, black tea, Asian spices and dusty earth. Shows beautiful purity of red berry/ cherry fruit and medium-body carried by juicy acity. Mouthfilling and deep with spicy accents on a frame of very fine-grained tannins, that give the wine structure and a core of elegance.

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