

2021 Cochon Fog Chaser Pinot Noir, Dutton- Perry Ranch, Russian River Valley (114 Cases Produced) (100% Pinot Noir, Clones: 777, 114, Pommard)

Vineyards: 1n 2019 we entered in to a parnership with the Dutton family to make wine from three of their distinctive and historic vineyards. Perry Ranch is a special place near Town of Occidental at the headwaters of Green Valley Creek in the Green Valley of Russian River Valley. This vineyard formerly known, as Keefer Ranch was first planted in 1989 by Marcy Keefer on a former apple orchard. Here the mature vines planted in classic Goldridge sandy loam soils, benefit from the cooling effects of the Pacific Ocean and the lingering fog, which makes for a long cool growing season. The gentle sloping, well drained and south-facing exposure allows for a long hang time, creating complexity and ripe tannins in the fruit.

Winemaking: The fruit from this site was picked at night and brought in 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 40% of which were new for natural malolactic fermentation and aging. The wine aged in barrel for 18 months before being racked and bottled unfiltered.

The Wine: Reveals a deep ruby-purple color with an intense nose of Bing cherries, kirsch, black raspberries, wild blueberries, violets plus hints of forest floor, black tea, vanilla and toast. Medium-bodied with a mouth filling texture and a concentrated core of berry fruits, mineral laced red fruits that mingle with spice on the palate, all carried and lifted by a lively acidity. Elegant and polished, offering a silky, velvety and supple texture with fine-grained, integrated tannins on the long, savory finish.

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