



RIVERBENCH

2017 ROSÉ

Estate Grown & Bottled – Santa Maria Valley



COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir, Martini Clone
HARVEST	September 6, 2017
COOPERAGE	100% Neutral Oak
ACIDITY	0.63 g/100ml
PH	3.39
ALCOHOL	12.5%
BOTTLED	August 16, 2018
PRODUCTION	94 cases
PRICE	\$25

WINEMAKERS NOTES

We love rosé. It's pink, it's fun and it's flirtatious. And it's usually the answer when you're asking "What the heck do I pair with this?" Whole clusters of dark and deliciously ripened Pinot Noir were pressed gently, which means the wine is very light in color, but very high in quality. Diverse and complex flavors of rose petal, strawberry, and orange blossom make it a little more serious, but if we're being perfectly honest, we taste a hint of jolly rancher and white gummy bear on the finish (no pretension here). Either way, we'd all loudly agree it's the best rosé we've ever made if we could only stop drinking it long enough.

2017 HARVEST

The 2017 growing season proved to be a continuation of another drought year. The winter brought some needed rainfall, early bud break and spring frost coupled with the dry and warm summer ensured another early harvest. The marine layer had minimal influence, which is unusual for the Santa Maria Valley. What we didn't see early in the season was the light yields across most parts of the ranch and varieties. Pinot Noir had small berries and clusters, with no wings or shoulders to bolster cluster weights. Berry Set following Bloom was very good and we were happy with great quality going to the winery. Sparkling started the first week of August with our Pinot Meunier and we were into full swing the last week of the month through most of September. A heavy thunderstorm on September 3 was followed by more thunder, rain and hail on September 10. Exciting light show and rain amounts per hour left little sleep for vineyard and winery workers to follow.

