



RIVERBENCH

2019 ONE PALM PINOT NOIR

Estate Grown & Bottled – Santa Maria Valley



COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir, Clone 667
HARVEST	September 19, 2019
COOPERAGE	30% New French Oak
COOPERS	Boutes Grand Reserve
ACIDITY	0.52 g/100ml
PH	3.81
ALCOHOL	13.8%
BOTTLED	July 22, 2020
PRODUCTION	473 cases
PRICE	\$48

90

Antonio Galloni
October 2021

WINEMAKERS NOTES

Meet our One Palm Pinot Noir, the debonair one of the bunch. He's polished and gracious, with integrated oak that won't overwhelm the senses. This wine pops with a dark purple color, customary of clone 667, and coats the tongue with hints of red fruits – strawberry, raspberry, and cherry. Yet there is a dusty quality that brings in an element of earthiness, maybe dirt after the rain, adding some old world sophistication. Yes, we're talking more Rhett Butler than Ashley Wilkes, make no mistake, with a sultry sexy, brooding and... dare we say it?... dangerous edge. One sip of this and, frankly, you won't give a damn.

2019 HARVEST

The old mantra of "slow and steady" reverberated across the 2019 vintage which started with abundant winter precipitation followed by a classically cool summer. The rains we received over winter were 5" above normal, priming our vines for an auspicious budburst in mid-March. Warm spring temperatures accelerated rapid flowering and therefore consistent fruit set, the like of which we had not seen in years. Unusual May showers gave our vineyard crew a formidable challenge of thwarting powdery mildew and botrytis on the vines. We are happy to say they rose to the occasion and kept our fruit some of the cleanest in years despite the late rain and foggy summer to follow. The first grapes for our sparkling wine, the Pinot Meunier, came into the winery on the first of September, a little later than usual. The rest of our still wine grapes followed suit and by the start of October, 95% of the ranch was harvested. The Pinot Noir clones exhibited dark color and rich extraction from the lower-than-expected yields. The real star of 2019 however, was our 15 acres of old vine Chardonnay. The clusters verged on perfection with clean, balanced, concentrated fruit. The cool growing season showcased primary notes of granny smith apple and riverbank minerality that will continue to develop in bottle "slow and steady" long into the future.

