



RIVERBENCH



2019 ROSÉ

Estate Grown & Bottled – Santa Maria Valley

COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
CLONES	667, 113, 115, 777, Pommard, Mount Eden
HARVEST	September 9, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23; 2019
COOPERAGE	100% Neutral Oak
ACIDITY	0.62 g/100ml
PH	3.15
ALCOHOL	13.5%
BOTTLED	April 11, 2020
PRODUCTION	390 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.

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.

