



RIVERBENCH



2023 CLONE 115 PINOT NOIR

Estate Grown & Bottled, Santa Maria Valley

COMPOSITION 100% Pinot Noir, Clones 115

HARVEST September 11, 2023

COOPERAGE 40% New French Oak

COOPERS TW Boswell

ACIDITY T.A. 0.54 g/100mL

PH 3.64

ABV 12.2%

BOTTLED August 20, 2024

PRODUCTION 400 cases

PRICE \$52

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

If wine wore clothes, this one would be head to toe in Chanel. Timeless and classic, this bottling embodies all that is elegant and refined. The nose is graceful with delicate floral notes of sweet violet and rose hips mingled with a pop of blackberry. The palate is quiet but full of gorgeous hyacinth, a bit of bacon and dried black currant. As it spends a little time in the glass, it evolves, keeping you guessing with every sip. On the finish, subtle flavors of tea leaves, boysenberry, and maybe a little orange peel and Schezuan pepper entice the senses and keep things interesting. Whether you're entertaining at home or at the White House, this is one that will impress the guests. Try it with mushroom lasagna or simple grilled steak.

2023 HARVEST

Vintage 2023 started off with above-average rainfall. Our vineyard received nearly 2.5 ft of rainfall from December to March, almost double the historical average. A large storm that passed through the area in early January, dropped 7+ inches of rainfall in a 24-hour period. Bud break was observed on February 27th, two weeks later than 2022 and one week later than 2021. The theme of "late" remained constant throughout the growing season. Bloom, set, and veraison were all 10-14 days later than the historical average. This was due in part to cooler spring and summer temperatures. The crop load was heavier than estimated in Pinot Noir and Chardonnay which also led to a longer ripening period. Our harvest period lasted from September 1st- October 18th. September weather provided steady ripening and great weather for our harvest crews. Seed and skin development outpaced Brix levels in most varieties which allowed us to harvest at slightly lower Brix than we do some years while maintaining quality.

