



RIVERBENCH



2022 SWAN CLONE PINOT NOIR *Estate Grown & Bottled, Santa Maria Valley*

COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir, Swan Clone
HARVEST	September 10, 2022
COOPERAGE	40% New French Oak
COOPERS	TW Boswell
ACIDITY	T.A. 0.63 g/100mL
PH	3.8
ABV	12.5%
BOTTLED	September 21, 2023
PRODUCTION	75 cases
PRICE	\$56

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Shrouded in mystery, the Swan clone of Pinot Noir's origins are a thing of stories and legends. The original vine cuttings, allegedly removed from the famous Domaine de la Romanée-Conti in Burgundy, haven't been perfectly traced. What we do know is this: the clone produces an exceptionally elegant, gracious, and floral wine, and it's awfully satisfying to drink. Gorgeous raspberry and a dash of maple are bright and fresh on the palate, and the nose is full of roses and violets. Enigmatic and flirtatious, ironic and a little magical, we're pretty proud of this little masterpiece.

2022 HARVEST

The 2022 growing season was filled with extreme highs and extreme lows. Dozens of frost events stretched from mid-February to early May, with little to no crop loss observed. Some sluggish growth in March and early April was somewhat remedied with four days in the 90s during the second week of April. The frosty spring gave way to historically average ripening conditions with veraison beginning around July 4th. Cluster counts resulted in 30-40% lighter than estimated yields in some varietals. In addition, a record-setting heat wave struck right in the middle of harvest causing sugar accumulation to spike, resulting in 3 weeks of maturation in less than 8 days. The heat gave way to rainfall, resulting in 2" of rain right in the middle of harvest. Fruit quality held up well with the heat and rain, but Brix and acids were not in their normal proportions.

