



PINOT NOIR
BLUE SLIDE RIDGE • FORT ROSS-SEAVIEW
2019



2019 VINTAGE

95 points Wine Advocate
96 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous

2018 VINTAGE

93 points Wine Advocate
96 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous

WINEMAKING DETAILS

Fermentation: 100% neutral French Oak; 100% Malolactic; on the lees with daily battonage

Oak: 50% new French Oak, 50% neutral French Oak, 10 months

Case Production: 271

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type: Josephine, Goldridge

Rootstock: 101-14, 3309

Clones: 115, 667, 777 and X Clone

GROWING YEAR

The 2019 season was overall very cool with record rainfall in Sonoma County in February. The vines, however, were not affected by this because they were still dormant at the time. Similar to the 2018 season, spring and summer were moderate in temperature and ripening developed gradually and under minimal stress. This year was in fact so similar to 2018 that we began harvest the same day, on September 10th. Unfortunately, another wildfire hit the region at the end of October, but luckily none of our vineyards were affected. The winery and many staff were evacuated, but we were able to keep an eye on the new vintage with a skeleton crew. The quality was not impacted, and we are very excited at the concentration of flavors in this vintage.

VINEYARD CHARACTER

Blue Slide is named for its magnificent formations of blue rock. Directly below the vineyard a sheer cliff drops into the small winding “Marshall Creek”, showing off great cerulean shards jutting out from beneath the earth’s surface. In 1995 Lee Sr. and Carolyn Martinelli planted this six-acre vineyard of Pinot Noir on a steep slope, under the guidelines of Helen Turley. This site was once prime grazing land for sheep, located on the second ridge inland from the Pacific coastline.

TASTING NOTES

Complex aromas of blueberry, plum and fresh roasted coffee are found in the nose. The superbly balanced palate is mouthwatering and long with flavors of black cherry and a touch of baking spice.