



2018 Weir Pinot Noir

APPELLATION

Mendocino County

VINEYARD

Weir Vineyard

ALCOHOL

14.1%

pH/TITRATABLE ACIDITY

3.64 / 5.46 g/l

WINEMAKING

10% Whole cluster, open top fermenters, cold soak, native yeast start, punch down

BARREL AGING

Aged 16 months in French oak (33% new barrels)

WINEMAKER

Garry Brooks

CASES PRODUCED

150



THE VINEYARDS AND VINTAGE

Weir Vineyard is in the Yorkville Highlands, about 7 miles south of Boonville. It sits between 900 and 1000 feet, on a south facing slope with well drained, rocky soil. The lower, eastern portion of the vineyard was planted in 1992. The slightly higher, western portion was planted in 2000. During the growing season, there is a 40-50 degree temperature shift between day and night. Both the elevation and the coastal air moving down the Anderson Valley provide cooling for the vineyard. We use Rochioli and 2A clones from the lower, eastern blocks and RC clone from the western blocks.

The 2018 vintage in Northern California was nearly ideal. After very cold winter and early spring, mild weather continued throughout the season with very few extreme heat spikes, allowing us to pick the grapes at optimal phenolic ripeness.

WINEMAKING

The vineyard was hand-picked well before sunrise the morning of September 21st. A small amount (about 15%) of the fruit was left on the stems, while the remainder was sorted and de-stemmed (but not crushed) into 1 and 1.5 ton fermenters. The wine was allowed to cold soak for 3 days, and then warmed in the sun. Fermentation began from native yeast, and finished within 2 weeks. Wines from the three different clones were kept separate and blended just before bottling. The wine was aged for 16 months in 33% new French oak barrels.

THE WINE

The 2018 Weir Vineyard Pinot Noir has an elegant bouquet of raspberry, dark cherry, licorice and notes of spicy cardamom. On the palate, it has a silky-smooth entry and flavors of cherry, red plum, cocoa butter and a little leather. The smooth tannins continue through the palate. It finishes with long, intense dried cherry with a hint of cardamom and leather. Its elegant flavors, silky structure, finesse, and long age-ability make it an exceptional wine!