



2019 MARIN COUNTY PINOT NOIR

APPELLATION

Marin County, Petaluma Wind Gap

VINEYARDS

Azaya Ranch Vineyard (60%)
Chileno Valley Vineyard (40%)

ALCOHOL

13.6%

pH/TITRATABLE ACIDITY

3.61/5.53 g/l

WINEMAKING

Open top 1 and 1.5 ton fermenters,
cold soak, native yeast start, punch
down

WINEMAKER

Garry Brooks

CASES PRODUCED

200

THE VINEYARDS AND VINTAGE

The 2019 Marin County Pinot is a blend from two vineyards on the Marin side of the Petaluma Gap. Azaya Ranch is close to the coast, just north of Stafford Lake on Hicks Valley Rd. It sits on a south facing, well drained slope. Cool wind from the coast ensures thick skins, great color, and beautiful texture in our clones 2a, 115,777, and 828. It is certified Organic. Chileno Valley Vineyard sits on a bench facing northeast toward Sonoma. Vines struggle to produce small, intensely flavored berries in this dry-farmed vineyard. Clone 828 contributes a burst of raspberry and cherry while the Pommard clone offers more structure and flavors of dark cherry. The site, with its cold nights and warm days, provides great acidity and a subtle earthiness typical of Marin.

The 2019 vintage was a great balance between generous crop levels and high quality. After a wet winter and moderate weather throughout the spring and summer, harvest time was a continuation of the mild weather, which allowed the grapes to slowly ripen. The wines from 2019 feature brilliant natural acidity and beautiful, concentrated flavors.

WINEMAKING

Chileno Valley Vineyard was picked beginning on September 20th with the Pommard clone. Clone 828 was picked from Chileno Valley Vineyard a week later along with the 777 from Azaya. Picking concluded on October 1st with clones 2A and 115 from Azaya. The fermentations occurred in 1 and 1.5 ton open-top vessels with 15% whole clusters. A small amount of juice was removed 24 hours after destemming. The wine was allowed to cold soak for 3 days, and then warmed in the sun. Fermentation began with native yeast and was completed with a commercial strain. Wines from each block were kept separate and then blended just before bottling. The wine was aged in 30% new, medium toast French oak barrels for 19 months.

THE WINE

Our 2019 Marin County Pinot Noir has a bouquet of black cherry, blackberry, black tea, sandalwood and a hint of sage. On the palate, it has a structured entry and lovely, round mouthfeel with flavors of cherry compote, blackberry, cola and black tea. It finishes with bright cherry, hibiscus tea, minerality and a hint of sage.

