

2012 Pinot Noir, 1861 Vineyard

Case production: 71 SRP: \$125

This vineyard is named both for its street address and coincidentally for the year in which Agoston Haraszthy was appointed by California's governor to "promote the improvement and growth of the grape-vine" in the state.

1861 is planted on a plateau in the hills a thousand feet above the Sonoma plaza. Less than half an acre, the small site divides itself naturally into two blocks, one rockier than the other. The vineyard is planted to a Pommard Selection on 101-14 rootstock with a narrow spacing of 4' x 5'. Marine influence comes from both the Pacific Ocean and San Pablo Bay. Mornings are often foggy, allowing the delicate Pinot Noir to thrive in this rugged hillside setting.

Winemaker Notes

This wine shows beautiful depth of fruit in the nose, with ample black cherry and red currents giving way to earthy and black olive notes. On the palate, sleek textures carry ripe black cherry flavors mingled with hints of forest floor. The tight grip of the tannins lend this wine structure and an enduring finish.

Fruit: 100% Sonoma Valley Pinot Noir,
100% Pommard Selection

Harvest Date: September 14, 2012

Bottling Date: February 14, 2013

Case Production: 71 cases

Oak: 35% New French (Francois Freres,
Remond and Cadus, all medium toast)

Alcohol: 14.5%

pH: 3.54

TA: 6.0g/L

Fermentation & Aging Details

The perfectly ripe clusters were sorted, de-stemmed and put into two t-bins to cold soak for four days. After a 10% Saignee the t-bins were inoculated with cultured yeast. Our treatment on this wine was more gentle as this vineyard has exhibited great tannins and structure in the past. After fermentation the wine was drained and pressed to barrel. For the next 16 month the wine rested on its lees until bottling in spring of 2014.

Weather Attributes

Good winter rains filled the soil profile giving us the resources for a promising season. Healthy and even shoot growth are the benchmark for a good season. Flowering occurred in mid May indicating that we would pick in mid September. Temperatures at flowering were mild, leading to a healthy fruit set. The summer months continued with mild temperatures causing less stress on the vines. In September we saw a few minor heat spikes that pushed harvest into gear. All in all the season was very uneventful a welcomed change to 2011.

Blue Farm

Founded on Anne Moller-Racke's 30-plus years of winegrowing in Sonoma, Blue Farm was conceptualized in 2001 during her planting of Anne Katherina, Blue Farm's first estate vineyard. Blue Farm believes that an intimate understanding and connection to our vineyards is core to making site-specific Chardonnay and Pinot Noir of the highest quality.

www.bluefarmwines.com