

2017 Pinot Noir, 1861 Vineyard, Sonoma Valley

Case Production: 49 / **SRP:** \$95.00

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 grapevine" in the state.

The 1861 vineyard 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 site is planted to the Pommard clone on 101-14 rootstock with a narrow spacing of 4' x 5'. Marine influence from both the Pacific Ocean and San Pablo Bay, combined with foggy mornings, allow the delicate pinot noir grapes to thrive in this rugged hillside setting.

Closest Town: Downtown Sonoma

AVA: Sonoma Valley

Varietal: Pinot Noir

Planted: 2008

Clone(s): Pommard

Rootstock: 101-14

Soil Type: Rocky loam

Aspect: Southern

Row Orientation: South/North

The Vintage

2017 will be a year that no one forgets for a long time. The defining features of the vintage were the tremendous rainfalls we experienced in the winter and, on October 8th, some of the worst fires in California history broke out in Napa and Sonoma counties. We had just completed harvest and none of our grapes were affected, though everyone's lives were. This was a sad ending to an otherwise good year.

A mild start to the year brought early bud break on March 15th. Flowering was also early, getting underway the first week in May, which pointed us to an early harvest. The summer growing was not without surprises as we had several heat spikes in June and July. August, however, was glorious with a beautiful cycle of cool marine air in the mornings to help modulate the temperature. We began harvesting on August 28th with our Chardonnay from Laceroni Vineyard in Russian River followed by 1861 a couple days later. The heat wave in early September pushed the Anne Katherina Vineyard along. The home vineyard was harvested on September 6th. King Ridge hung out a little longer, joining the team on the 20th of September.

Vintage: 2017

Harvest Date: August 28

Harvest Brix: 26.5

Harvest pH: 3.76

Harvest TA: 5.8

Days in Tank: 12 days

Type of Tank: Open top stainless steel

Barrel Program: 100% New Atellier, Cadus

Bottling Date: March 2019

Bottling % Alcohol: 14.5

Case Production: 49

SRP: \$95

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



