

WHITEHALL  
LANE



WINEMAKER: *Jason Moulton*

APPELLATION: *Petaluma Gap,  
Sonoma Stage Vineyard*

COMPOSITION: *100% Pinot Noir*

ALCOHOL: *14.2%*

2019

SONOMA STAGE VINEYARD  
PETALUMA GAP  
CALERA CLONE  
PINOT NOIR

VINTAGE

The 2019 vintage was a near perfect growing season. Bud break began in late March, leading to a Spring that had few showers and was relatively dry. Summer was also quite warm and long, followed by a warm Autumn harvest season.

This consistent weather encouraged our Pinot Noir grapes to ripen into early-October. The fruit was harvested on September 25th, 2019.

VINEYARD

This wine hails from Whitehall Lane's newest property, the Sonoma Stage Vineyard on the southeastern edge of the Petaluma Gap Appellation in Sonoma County. It is home to 12 small blocks of world-class Pinot Noir grapes, and the

Calera Clone makes up four of these vineyard blocks. The Calera Clone is considered a "suitcase clone" originating from grapevine clippings taken from a vineyard in the Côte-d'Or in Burgundy, France. These clippings arrived in the United States unregulated (via suitcase?) and were grafted to Pinot Noir vines in California. The Calera Clone in our Sonoma Stage Vineyard was re-propagated from those original cuttings and grafted to rootstock.

WINE

Upon hand harvesting in the early morning hours, the grapes were carefully destemmed and sent to tank for a whole-berry fermentation. The grapes were cold-soaked allowing for increased color, aroma, and flavor extraction. After inoculation with a select yeast, the grape must (juice, skins, and seeds) fermented at 78°F, which allowed for a hot extraction on the skins. This small lot was aged in French oak barrels (35% new) for 14 months and was bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

NOTES

This Sonoma Stage Vineyard Pinot Noir has aromatic layers of wild strawberries, red currants, brambly fruit, and toasted brioche. On the palate, strawberry tartlet couples with raspberry coulis, dried cherries, smoked Peking duck, and a touch of toasted vanillin. All of these elements burst from this wine with a textured, round mouthfeel and long-structured finish.

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