



2017 FEL PINOT NOIR, SAVOY VINEYARD ANDERSON VALLEY

FEL Wines produces Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Pinot Gris grown in the Anderson Valley. These cool climate regions are known for producing wines of bright acidity and considerable complexity. Crafted by Winemaker Ryan Hodgins, FEL bottlings consistently offer the elusive combination of concentration and elegance.

Vintage

California's five-year drought ended in the winter of 2016/17, with heavy rains continuing to fall through the spring, filling ponds, saturating the soil and providing vines with the moisture needed for early-season growth. Our grapevines benefited from warm weather in June and July without any significant heat waves. A weeklong heatwave in late August accelerated ripening and we began picking grapes in the warmer Boonville end of Anderson Valley on September 1st. A couple of cooler weeks in late September slowed ripening and allowed for a more leisurely harvest that lasted into early October.

Vineyards

Our estate, Savoy Vineyard, long recognized as a benchmark vineyard in Anderson Valley, is located in the "Deep End" of the valley, west of the town of Philo. The maritime influence and moderate daytime temperatures contribute to the wine's elegant flavor profile and silky tannins. This wine is made of a blend of clones including several Dijon selections, Pommard, Martini, and Calera.

Winemaking

The fruit was harvested in four picks on September 6th, 7th, 30th and October 4th at an average of 24.2° Brix. It then went through a seven-day cold soak at 50°F, a nine-day primary fermentation, peaking between 90 and 94°F, and a five to seven day extended maceration. The wine was aged sixteen months in 60-gallon French oak barrels, 41% of which were new. Coopers include Cadus, Quintessence, Tremeaux, and Rousseau.

Winemaker Notes

An intensely fragrant wine, the 2017 Savoy Vineyard Pinot Noir features heady aromatics of black cherry, boysenberry, pomegranate, and rose petal. Spicy notes of cardamom, cinnamon, and clove complement the fruit. Flavors of cherry pie, cocoa, cedar, and Acai are carried on a silky palate with fine grained tannins and fresh acidity.

Analysis

Alcohol: 14.3%
Production: 396 cases
Bottling Date: February 8, 2019
Release Date: October 1, 2019