



2019 FEL PINOT NOIR, SAVOY VINEYARD ANDERSON VALLEY

FEL Wines produces Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, and Pinot Gris grown in the Anderson Valley. This cool climate region is 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

After a wet winter, the 2019 growing season started with a pleasant spring and lots of sunshine. We were fortunate to have almost no frosty nights following budbreak, but a major rainstorm in late May, just as bloom was beginning, was a major cause for concern. Once we got into fruit-set (the first time when we can judge the success of pollination), it was clear that our worries were for naught and we had an abundant crop. The summer was warm and even, virtually without heat spikes until a few warm days in late August pushed ripening along. Harvest began at the beginning of September and extended through early October. The wines of the 2019 vintage have bright fruit and a refreshing purity of flavor.

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 Mt. Eden, Pommard, Martini, Calera, Swan, and Dijon 115.

Winemaking

The fruit was harvested in four picks on September 5th and 30th at an average of 24.1° Brix. It then went through a seven-day cold soak at 50°F, a seven-day primary fermentation, peaking at 92°F, and two to three days of extended maceration. The wine was aged sixteen months in 60-gallon French oak barrels, 30% of which were new. Coopers include Quintessence, Tremeaux, Cadus, and Sirugue.

Winemaker Notes

Our flagship Pinot Noir is always a reflection of the beautiful site from which the grapes are grown. Savoy Vineyard is perched above the Navarro River bench looking out at the last stand of old-growth redwoods in Anderson Valley. The wildness of the forest is reflected in the wine with aromas of conifer needles, native mint, and wild brambleberries. The nose also includes notes of black cherry, cedar, and cinnamon. Texturally, Savoy Pinot Noir is always a compelling wine with silky tannins that give great length to the mouth and support flavors of cherry, blackberry, and black tea.

Analysis

Alcohol: 14.2%
Production: 532 cases
Bottling Date: March 12, 2021
Release Date: October 1, 2021