

GARY FARRELL

VINEYARDS & WINERY

2022 RUSSIAN RIVER SELECTION ROSÉ OF PINOT NOIR RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

Vineyards

The Wat Vineyard is located just off Bodega Highway in Sebastopol, in one of the coolest parts of the Green Valley sub-appellation of the Russian River AVA. About 18.5 miles southwest of the winery and 12 miles east of the Pacific Coast. The vines we work with are all UCD clone 37 on 101-14 rootstock. The Goldridge series soil is a fine sandy loam that provides excellent drainage and low soil fertility, while the coastal fog intrusions provide a cooling effect after moderately warm, sunny days.

Vintage

The 2022 growing season began with a cold, dry winter that continued through February, though the chilly, sunny days led to early budbreak, followed by a few inches of rainfall in March-April. Late March brought warm, sunny days that continued through May, leading to early bloom and rapid shoot growth. April brought serious frost that resulted in damage to the vulnerable new growth. This was followed by an unexpected hail storm on May 9th that caused more damage, and further impacted yields. Warm Summer temperatures led to an early onset of harvest on August 12th. A heat wave that month pushed maturity so 74% of our grapes were already in when the severe heat wave arrived around September 6th. Temperatures peaked well above average, which would have caused excessive dehydration if we hadn't swiftly harvested the remaining grapes. Harvest ended September 9th, which was the earliest in our winery history. Despite the rapid pace, flavors and tannin were concentrated and acidity was vibrant, creating wines that rival those of the beautiful 2021 vintage.

Winemaking

The grapes were harvested on August 25th at a vibrant 21.6° Brix. The grapes that were delivered to the winery were packed with vibrant, crisp, varietally expressive characteristics. As soon as the cold fruit arrived early that morning, we transferred the whole Pinot Noir clusters to the press, and used a gentle modified Champagne program to extract only the most desirable solids and phenolics. The resulting juice was left in tank to cold-settle overnight before transferring 25% of the blend to neutral oak barrels for partial fermentation, in order to build richness and texture. The remainder of the blend was fermented in stainless steel. When the barrels neared end of fermentation, their contents were combined with the remaining must in tank, where the mixture remained through the completion of fermentation, and then aged on primary lees.

Tasting Notes

This scrumptious rosé flaunts aromas of perfectly ripened blood orange, hibiscus, dragonfruit, zesty ginger, and a hint of fresh, savory tarragon. A laser-precise, mineral-rich palate bestows loads of salinity, sweet pomelo, passionfruit and red currant, all deliciously packaged in a frame of citrus oil and limestone. This perfectly balanced rosé possesses succulent acidity and phenolic structure that comingle into a stunningly persistent finish.

Appellation

Russian River Valley

Vineyards

Wat Vineyard

Composition

100% Pinot Noir

Fermentation & Aging

75% stainless steel fermented;
25% fermented in neutral French
oak barrels, then combined.

Combined blend aged 4 months
in stainless steel.

Alcohol

13.2%

pH / T.A.

3.21 / 7.1 gm/L

Production

340 Cases

Bottling Date

February 9, 2023

Release Date

June 2023

Retail Price

\$45