

2022 PINOT NOIR RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

TASTING NOTES

The Russian River Valley Pinot Noir is an annual expression of our Pinot Noir ethos. The heart of this wine is Kanzler Estate Vineyard, which along with our Estate Walker Station Vineyard and a few neighboring sites give us the raw material to craft a wine that is uniquely Kanzler and classically Russian River Valley. Rose petal, nori, Bing cherry, and black tea jump out of the glass along with a briny freshness that is unique and succulent. This wine is a kaleidoscope of the vineyards we work with and showcases our best efforts at expressing the 2022 vintage.

VINEYARD COMPOSITION

The Kanzler family takes pride in the majority of the Russian River Valley Pinot Noir coming from the renowned estate vineyard. The other four vineyards in the blend are nearby gems, likewise owned by local families. The wine embodies the complex, lithe character of the Sebastopol Hills. Kanzler Vineyard was planted in 1996, southwest of the Sonoma County town of Sebastopol, in an ideal location for Pinot: well-drained Goldridge soil, sunny summers, ocean breezes, and fog.

GROWING SEASON

The 2022 vintage started dry and cold. After an extremely wet finale to 2021 (December 2021 being one of the wettest on record), mother nature turned off the spigot and January-March of 2022 were exceptionally dry throughout California. The cold and dry pattern continued through spring as we fought bouts of frost in April. Summer was marked by several heat waves but overall, our ocean-influenced Mediterranean climate prevailed. We completed harvest on September 27th. 2022 was the rare vintage where all fruit was harvested in the month of September.

WINEMAKING

Handmade by winemaker Alex Kanzler. We picked the grapes at night and sorted them twice. After a 5-day cold soak, we raised the temperature to initiate fermentation by native yeasts. When we tasted the proper structure, it was time to gently basket-press. We then selected barrels to complement each lot. After 15 months and careful blending, the wine was bottled unfiltered.

SPECS

PRODUCTION
1,167 cases (48 barrels)

APPELLATION
Russian River Valley

VARIETAL
100% Pinot Noir

HARVESTED
September 5-27, 2022

VINEYARDS
Kanzler Estate 53%
Mes Filles 5%
O' Conner 31%
Walker Station 9%
Wind Horse 2%

FERMENTATION
Native and cultured yeast

AGING
14 months on lees
French oak barrels—23% new
Finished 1 month stainless steel

BOTTLED
December 19, 2023
Unfined, unfiltered

ALCOHOL
14.4% by volume

PH
3.56

WINEMAKER
Alex Kanzler

