



2009 PINOT NOIR
BALISTRERI FAMILY VINEYARD
FREESTONE VIEW BLOCK

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2009 Balistreri Pinot Noir has dark black cherry and ripe rich black raspberry that is framed by elegant spice and forest floor aromatics. The palate offers a range of red and black fruits plus pomegranate with just the right amount of tannin and acidity to carry all the fruit, also notes of hazelnut roasted coffee and cassis. With great acidity, this wine has the potential for aging an additional 8-15 years.

Conditions in late winter and spring were unseasonably warm and almost completely dry, a change from the usual winter weather on the extreme Sonoma Coast. Bud break occurred in mid-March and frost was not a problem. The summer months were somewhat cooler than usual with dense fog at night lasting till mid morning and virtually no heat spikes. A warm September, always needed in our growing region, allowed full development at optimal brix and acid levels and beautifully developed phenolics.

WINEMAKER NOTES

Harvest took over 2 full weeks and ended just as we entered November ahead of the rains. Hand harvested in the early morning hours in cold state, clusters were hand sorted and de-stemmed in small one ton fermenters with approximately 25% left to whole cluster for the enhanced aromatic benefit. An extended 10 day cold soak was done to maximize the full potential of this wonderful fruit. We gently manipulated the cap through hand punch downs performed 2 to 3 times per day to ensure balanced extraction. Cold soak was ended by spontaneous wild fermentation and the juice was then chilled and inoculated.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Vineyard Source: Balistreri Family Vineyard

Varietal Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Alcohol: 14.4%