

Freeman Pinot Noir West Sonoma Coast 2021

Selected by: Master Sommelier Evan Goldstein



Final Deductions

VINTAGE 2021
GRAPE Pinot Noir
GEOGRAPHY Not Europe
COUNTRY USA
LARGER REGION California
SMALLER REGION Sonoma County
SUB REGION Sonoma Coast

Rationale

Pinot Noir is capable of some of the most exquisite examples of red wine imaginable. Unfortunately, in many spots globally, it is at the mercy of fickle weather and, as such, less than spectacular harvests, making it one of the most challenging grape varieties to produce. California's moderate Mediterranean-like weather combined with cool coastal enclaves -- from Anderson Valley in the north to Santa Barbara in the south -- provides Pinot Noir growers more security in their efforts to cultivate this most difficult of grape varieties.

The 'true' Sonoma Coast lies in the far western reaches of the county, where the climate is ideal for Pinot Noir. The frigid waters of the Pacific generate breezes that transport fog inland during summer and result in cool, mild growing conditions. Well-architected, fruit-filled Pinot Noirs are typified by plum, blackberry, cherry, and wild berry flavors well-framed by toasty notes, conifer, and minerality.

Freeman Vineyard & Winery was founded by Ken and Akiko Freeman in 2001. From the first vintage, the Freeman style went against convention. While others pushed the limits of ripeness, Akiko and consulting winemaker Ed Kurtzman sought balance and refinement. Today, the winery is defined by those same pursuits, with Akiko at the helm as winemaker, and Freeman is recognized internationally as one of California's most acclaimed small producers.

Sight

BRIGHTNESS Day Bright
CLARITY Clear
COLOR DEPTH Light
COLOR Ruby
RIM VARIATION Ruby
Stained Tears: None

Structure

RESIDUAL SUGAR Dry
ACID Med+
ALCOHOL Medium
TANNIN Medium
TEXTURE Round / Smooth
FINISH Long
COMPLEXITY Med+

Aroma & Taste

RED FRUIT Red Plum • Red Raspberry • Red / Sour Cherry • Pomegranate *Condition: Fresh, Ripe*
BLACK FRUIT Black Raspberry • Black Cherry *Condition: Fresh*
CITRUS FRUIT Mandarin • Orange *Condition: Fresh Part: Peel / Zest*
FLORAL Potpourri • Rose *Condition: Fresh*
OTHER VEGETABLE Mushrooms (Brown) • Tomato Leaf • Ginger / Root
HERBAL Pine / Sap • Cilantro • Mint / Eucalyptus
OTHER SPICES Sassafras • Licorice (Red) • Chinese Five Spice
ORGANIC EARTH Forest Floor • Turned Dirt / Potting Soil
INORGANIC EARTH Mineral / Rock • Salinity / Seashell
OAK AGING Yes *Oak Intensity: Low*
OAK INFLUENCE Blended Oak
OXIDATION/NUTTINESS Hazelnut • Pistachio
PERCEIVED WINEMAKING CHOICES Partial / Whole Cluster