

# ALEXANDER VALLEY VINEYARDS

## 2019 Estate Pinot Noir

The Wetzel Family's Pinot Noir vineyard is planted along the banks of the Russian River, where the morning fog lingers and cools the vines. The vineyard is planted to three clones - Dijon 777, for rich concentration and black fruit; Dijon115, for soft tannins and perfume and Pommard, for color, dark fruit and spice.

Although the weather was a bit cooler than usual early in the 2019 growing season, there were no unusual temperature swings during bud break or flowering. The moderate temperatures continued through the summer, allowing the grapes to mature gradually. After 2018's record setting crop size, 2019 swung back to an average yield. At harvest, the quality of the fruit was excellent with high acidity and intense flavors.

After the fruit was hand-harvested each lot was kept separate. Clone 777 underwent a 48-hour cold soak and was tank fermented, while winemaker Kevin Hall placed the other lots in bins and mixed in dry ice for the first day in a technique known as cryoextraction. The dry ice fractured the grape skins, leading to deeper flavor and color extraction from the fruit. Fermentation was completed in half ton macrobins. Ten months aging in French oak barrels complemented the silky texture of the wine.

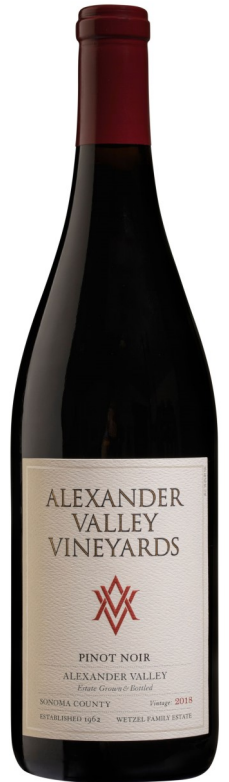
Our Estate Pinot Noir is classically styled with balanced acidity and complex flavors. There are aromas of black and red cherry, raspberry, earthy notes, vanilla and oak. This is a soft wine with silky texture and bright fruit flavors of fresh cherry, blueberry, plum, barrel spice and a hint of vanilla. There is a long lingering finish on this lush wine.

**Food Pairing:** Pinot Noir is versatile - serve with both red and white meats. Our favorites include roasted chicken, mushroom risotto, grilled salmon and beef bourguignon.

**Accolades:** 2019: 92 points & Gold Medal - *Los Angeles Invitational Wine Challenge*  
2019: Best of Class - *San Francisco Chronicle Wine Competition*  
2019: Double Gold Medal & Class Champion - *HLSR International Wine Competition*  
2019: Gold Medal - *Dan Berger's International Wine Competition*  
2019: 89 points - *James Suckling*

**Profile:**

- Great balance, elegant & aromatic
- Dark fruit flavors, long finish



### About Alexander Valley Vineyards:

Harry and Maggie Wetzel purchased the 600 acres that is home to AVV in 1962 from the heirs of valley namesake Cyrus Alexander. The Wetzel Family Estate stretches from the banks of the Russian River to the Mayacamas Mountains and today the 4th generation of the family calls it home. From the beginning the family has celebrated the unique place they call home by producing wines showcasing the terroir of the Alexander Valley.

### Technical Data:

**Grapes:** Pinot Noir 100%  
**Harvest:** September 5—12, 2019  
**Barrel Aging:** 10 months French Oak, 25% new  
**Closure:** 750ml cork  
**Alcohol:** 14% pH: 3.65 TA: 5.3 g/L  
**UPC:** 0-85798 06872-2 SRP: \$34  
**Cases:** 3,100 First vintage: 1978



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