

# ALEXANDER VALLEY VINEYARDS

## 2020 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. This elegant wine is produced from four clones—Dijon 777, for rich concentration and black fruit; Dijon115, for soft tannins and perfume; Pommard, for color, dark fruit and spice; and AS2, widely reputed to be progeny of a suitcase cutting from the famed La Tâche vineyard, for deep color and black fruits.

The 2020 growing season enjoyed near-perfect growing conditions. The year began with unseasonably warm temperatures, and lower than normal rainfall. This was followed by weeks of steady daytime heat and cool evenings, allowing the grapes to ripen evenly. 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 Pinot Noir is classically styled with balanced acidity and complex flavors. Bright, yet earthy aromas of black cherry, vanilla, oak and a hint of mushroom fill the glass. This is a soft wine with silky texture and fresh flavors of fresh cherry, blueberry, plum, barrel spice, a hint of vanilla and slight floral notes. Smooth texture and good acidity balance the solid core of fruit. Simply put this Pinot has the flavor profile and terroir expression of a classic Burgundy at a bottle price that won't break the bank!

**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.

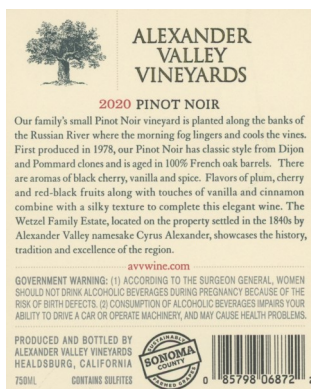
**Accolades:** 2020: 95 points - *Beverage Dynamics / Cheers*  
2020: 91 points - *James Suckling*  
2020: 91 points - *California State Fair*  
2020: Gold Medal - *Monterey Wine Festival*

**Profile:**

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

### Featuring the Sonoma Sustainable Logo:

Over the decades we have created and utilized many sustainable practices in our vineyards and winery. We are excited to formally recognize our commitment by adding the Sonoma County Sustainably Farmed Grapes logo to the back label this wine. Sustainability ensures that our business, rural lifestyle and agricultural heritage will be maintained for years to come.



### Technical Data:

**Grapes:** Pinot Noir 100%  
**Harvest:** August 21—September 4, 2020  
**Barrel Aging:** 10 months French Oak, 25% new  
**Closure:** 750ml cork  
**Alcohol:** 14% pH: 3.48 TA: 6.5 g/L  
**UPC:** 0-85798 06872-2 **SRP:** \$34  
**Cases:** 2,819 **First vintage:** 1978



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