



SYRAH
VELLUTINI RANCH • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
2022



2021 VINTAGE

93 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous
93 points – Jeb Dunnuck/Audrey Frick

2020 VINTAGE

95 points – Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

2019 VINTAGE

94 points - Antonio Galloni, Vinous

WINEMAKING DETAILS

Fermentation: 100% neutral French Oak; 100% Malolactic; on the lees with daily battonage

Racked and returned to barrels 4 times

Oak: 50% new French Oak,
50% neutral French Oak, 15 months total

Case Production: 94

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type: Hugo with Josephine

Rootstock: 420A

Clones: 470

WINEMAKER

Courtney Robinett Wagoner

GROWING YEAR

The 2022 season started out with ideal conditions with early rains helping to push bud break into Spring. While we encountered instances of shatter (a grape berry fails to develop because of incomplete pollination) due to frost, this was limited to specific vineyards. Meticulous attention was given to addressing this issue, as we diligently assessed each block and thinned any clusters affected by shatter. Thankfully, the summer months offered the optimal combination of warm days and perfectly cool nights. However, Labor Day weekend launched what has been marked as one of the most heat-intensive 7-day periods on record for Sonoma County, resulting in a significant number of vineyards reaching their ripening stage simultaneously.

VINEYARD CHARACTER

Our Vellutini Syrah vineyard is two acres in size and was planted in 2000 to clone 470. It sits on the western edge of the Russian River Valley on a northeast slope, which receives the first ray of early morning sunshine. The Vellutini Ranch vineyards are bordered on the east by Jackass Hill and on the south by Jackass Vineyard, sharing the same Franciscan soil type.

TASTING NOTES

A gorgeous nose of fresh leather, blackberry, and floral notes. The entry is intriguing, with black currant and blackberry flavors, followed by a sweet and savory palate of dark chocolate shavings and blueberry that lingers through the finish.