



PINOT NOIR
ZIO TONY RANCH VINEYARD • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
2021



2019 VINTAGE

95 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous
95+ points Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

2018 VINTAGE

97 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous
92+ points Erin Brooks, Wine Advocate

WINEMAKING DETAILS

Fermentation: 100% neutral French Oak; 100% Malolactic; on the lees with daily battonage
Oak: 50% new French Oak, 50% neutral French Oak, 10 months
Case Production: 512

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type: Gold Ridge & Clay Loam
Clones: 115, 777, 828

WINEMAKER

Courtney Robinett Wagoner

GROWING YEAR

2021 was the driest known year on record and was also the third year of drought conditions for Sonoma County. Contrary to these conditions, the summer was relatively cool and started two weeks later than the previous year. The drought conditions did bring ripeness to each of our varietals at just about the same time. By the end of the first week, we had 40% of total tonnage in the winery. This included Chardonnay, Pinot Noir and Zinfandel from both Fort Ross-Seaview and Russian River Valley. Despite being a very compact harvest, small clusters and berry size have yielded exceptional quality which makes 2021 a standout vintage.

VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Zio Tony Ranch is named after Lee Sr.'s uncle Tony who was the first in the Bondi family to be born on American soil. Zio Tony, Zio meaning 'uncle' in Italian and pronounced 'tseo', was a very charismatic man with a big booming voice who loved a good time. When Zio Tony passed away in 1971 his nephew, Lee Martinelli, Sr., took over management of the estate. The love of his family's heritage land was too great for Lee to sell the property and in one short season he went from High School teacher to Apple Farmer. Eventually this apple orchard was converted to vineyards, as the market for apples grew unbearably soft. The vines are planted on rolling hills made up of Gold Ridge soil.

TASTING NOTES

Aromas of Blood Orange peel, wet earth, and blackberry preserves fill your nose. Balanced acidity upon the entry and the palate is enhanced with flavors of black cherry, hibiscus, and raspberry tea. The finish is weighty and long and accompanied by flavors of orange peel.