



MARTINELLI

ESTABLISHED IN THE 1880'S

## SYRAH

VELLUTINI RANCH • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

2021



### 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

2021 was the driest year on record since they started keeping records 127 years ago. It 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 varieties at just about the same time. By the end of the first week, we had 40% of the 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

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

Abundant aromas of dark chocolate, raspberry compote, and roasted chicory engulf the nose. Balanced acidity compliments the tannins, while flavors of wild blueberry pie and sassafras are present from the first sip to the lasting finish.