



PINOT NOIR
LOLITA RANCH VINEYARD • RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
2023



GROWING YEAR

When we look back at the 2023 growing season there are two words that perfectly describe the vintage - late and big. After an exceptionally wet and cool winter, bud break happened over a month later than average. Our first day of picking was the day after the harvest completed the previous year. Fruit set was excellent and the temps during the summer were moderate to cool, with very few days in the triple digits. What a contrast from 2022! Mild temperatures along with abundantly available water allowed the clusters to develop slowly and evenly.

VINEYARD CHARACTER

The Lolita Ranch is located on Martinelli Road in Forestville. The property was part of the original Martinelli Homestead Ranch, belonging to Giuseppe and Luisa Martinelli who purchased the steep, forested land in the late 1800s. Later, their eldest son Fred sold the parcel to his neighbor, Lolita Young's mother. Eventually Bob and Lolita Young inherited it and ran a herd of cattle on the land for many years. Lee Martinelli Jr. and his wife Pamela acquired the property in 1999 from Bob Young after Lolita's passing, returning it back to the Martinelli estate and to the family's continuing century-long legacy of viticulture. Lee Jr. decided to name the ranch after Lolita and planted the steep hillside in 2001 with four different grape varieties: Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah, and Zinfandel.

TASTING NOTES

Charming and layered with aromas of fresh-baked strawberry tart, nutmeg, and clove. The palate is bright and juicy, bursting with ripe strawberries and Bing cherries. A well-integrated acidity provides freshness and balance, leading to a vivid pomegranate finish that leaves the mouth watering for more.

2023 VINTAGE

94 points – James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*

94 points – Audrey Frick, *Jeb Dunnuck*

2022 VINTAGE

94 points – J. Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*

93 points - Antonio Galloni, *Vinous*

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: 345

VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type:
Josephine's with lots of Franciscan shale

Rootstock:
101-14, 3309, 420A

Clones:
777, 667