



PINOT NOIR  
MOONSHINE 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

This petite vineyard was planted in 1995 and 1996 at 2,500 vines per acre and is situated on rocky fertile ground with lots of exposed cobblestones. The rows are north/south oriented, which allows for indirect sunlight to influence the even ripening clusters. Three Dijon clones were grafted onto rootstock to match climate behavior and the unique properties of each specific soil series. Moonshine Ranch is named for the century-old draughty barn on the property. The high raftered building stands as a relic of times of old, as its heyday was during the prohibition era, serving as a small factory for prune brandy.

#### TASTING NOTES

Deep and enticing aromas of blueberry, red currant, and vanilla cream rise from the glass. The palate is rich and textural, with flavors of sweet boysenberry pie, black tea, and subtle baking spice. The Moonshine Pinot Noir finishes with notable weight, lifted by a graceful edge of blood orange zest that adds intrigue and complexity.

#### 2023 VINTAGE

95 points – James Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*

93 points – Audrey Frick, *Jeb Dunnuck*

#### 2022 VINTAGE

95 points – J. Molesworth, *Wine Spectator*

94 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: 385

#### VINEYARD DETAILS

Soil Type:

Huichicha

Rootstock:

101-14, 3309

Clones:

115,114, 113