

PAUL HOBBS

2021 PINOT NOIR GEORGE MENINI ESTATE RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Owner: Paul Hobbs Winery
- Sourcing: George Menini Estate
- Clonal selection: Calera, Mt Eden, 777, 943
- Rootstock: 101-14, rg
- Plant date: 2015
- Soils: Goldridge sandy loam
- Exposure: Eastern aspect
- Trellis and pruning: cane pruned, vertical shoot positioned
- Yield: 4.57 tons/acre

GROWING SEASON

One of the best vintages in recent memory, 2021 will be remembered for its intensely flavored berries, a smooth harvest and most importantly, exquisitely balanced, nuanced, and vivid wines. The season began with historically low rainfall which, coupled with a cold winter, delayed bud break. However, despite the cooler start to the year, the remainder of the season proved to be temperate with no relevant unfavorable weather events. Warm temps and mild May weather conditions, for example, favored a compact bloom and an extremely uniform fruit set with highly desirable small berries and moderately sized, well-spaced clusters. Meanwhile, summer's long, cool mornings and warm afternoons permitted the fruit on the vine to take a slow, leisurely ride to full maturity—excellent for the physiological fruit development we prize. Harvest kicked-off punctually at 12:01 am, September 6, and after six glorious weeks, blessed our house with a fine crop of remarkably delicious, energetic, young wines.

HARVEST

- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- Harvest dates: September 6 - 9

WINEMAKING

- Hand-sorted while still cold from the field; 15% whole cluster inclusion
- Fermented in small, open-top stainless steel tanks with indigenous yeasts
- 5-day cold soak, 14 day maceration
- Gentle punchdowns
- Spontaneous malolactic fermentation
- Aged 9 months in French oak barrels; 25% new
- Coopers: Cadus, Leroi, Latour, Remond, Taransaud, Vicard
- Bottled unfiltered and unfiltered; August, 2022

TASTING NOTES

A more reflective style of Pinot Noir from the Sebastopol Hills, our inaugural release presents deep ruby in hue with fresh raspberry, mountain strawberry, and baking spices. On the palate, notes of blue fruits, sandstone, and vanilla caress the palate, framed by supple tannins and juicy acidity creating tension. This is a bright and focused wine with a long, elegant finish.