

PAUL HOBBS

2020 BLANC DE NOIRS

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Clonal selection: Calera, 114, 667, 943, Montrachet
- Rootstocks: Riparia gloire, Schwarzman, 420a, 3309
- Sites: Roger Wishard Estate

GROWING SEASON

A dry winter started the season with less than half the region's average rainfall leading to a mild spring and early season bud break. Summer began with relatively moderate temperatures resulting in exceptional phenolic development, allowing fruit to ripen and mature slowly on the vine. Consecutive heat spells coupled with a rare mid-August lightning storm accelerated the start of harvest two weeks earlier than average. All fruit was hand-harvested within seven weeks, and although challenging on many fronts, our highly skilled team persevered at every stage and excelled in their meticulous picking, sorting, and barrel selections.

HARVEST

- Hand-harvested at night, shears only
- Harvest date: August 13, 2020

WINEMAKING

- Hand-sorted while still cold from the field
- Whole-cluster bladder pressed
- Indigenous yeast fermentation
- Aged 8 months in stainless steel tanks
- 78% pinot noir, 22% chardonnay
- Méthode traditionnelle
- Style: brut
- Bottled: April 2021
- En tirage: 22 months
- Disgorged: February 2023

TASTING NOTES

Crystalline, light straw in the glass, the 2020 vintage exhibits a fine, delicate mousse and opens with aromas of pear, kumquat, key lime pie, and a hint of brioche. The palate begins with a bright and refreshing acidity that integrates with layers of white strawberry, green apple skin, and fresh chèvre, complemented by minerality and a crisp, lingering finish. While exceptional upon release, this wine has the length, drive, and character to age beautifully in the bottle.

