

LA HONDA



2022 *Sequence* Pinot Noir Santa Cruz Mountains

HARVESTED: August 29th - September 13th, 2022

VINEYARD: Santa Cruz Mountains

SOILS: loamy clay

BOTTLED: February 2024, 350 cases

COMPOSITION: 100% Pinot Noir

ALCOHOL: 13.6%

WINEMAKER: Andrew Vingiello

VINEYARD MANAGER: Thayer Dunwoody

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2022 vintage started with a chilly and dry winter although, fortunately, there had been considerable rainfall late in the previous year which helped saturate soils. Spring remained chilly and dry until late March when rains developed for a few weeks into April while warmer temperatures prompted an earlier budbreak. The continued severe drought had a predictable (and not bad) effect: the berries themselves were smaller, which generally means smaller crops, smaller clusters but concentrated, high-quality wines. The post-veraison period was warm but mostly moderated, until September when a heat spell set in. Fruit continued to develop evenly until reaching phenolic ripeness. Vintages of such magnitude generally deliver wines with great transparency to the vineyard.

WINEMAKING NOTES

We harvest our Pinot Noir sequentially with co-fermentation in mind, filling open top tanks and T-bins with vineyards matching in fruit profiles. We employ some whole-cluster fermentation (25% in 2022), providing extra structure and tannin to the final cuvee. The rest of the vineyards were destemmed whole berry and hand sorted on the shaker table. All fruit is cold soaked prior to fermentation to deepen color, followed by either inoculation of commercial yeast strains or native yeasts. The ferments are gently punched down by hand two to three times a day with peak fermentation temps hitting roughly 90 degrees F. The wine is left on skins for a total of 15-20 days. Our 2022 vintage saw 15% new French oak and was aged in barrel for 16 months. Bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES

The 2022 *Sequence* pinot noir has a dark dusty ruby red core that transforms to light garnet hues on the rim. The nose is well balanced, fruit forward and highly perfumed with classic coastal California pinot noir aromatics. The wine is fleshy, medium bodied, has soft tannins and a textured velvety like mouth feel. Robust black cherry and juicy wild raspberry dominate the mid palate all framed by toasted oak, forest floor and chinese five spice notes. The finish is long and persistent with balanced minerality and fresh acidity. Perfect with poultry, fish or a dry aged steak!

CELLARING

Enjoy now or over the next 3-5 years.