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BOUCHAINE

N A P A V A L L E Y ♦ C A R N E R O S

2021 Dijon Clone, Estate Pinot Noir



Vineyard

Bouchaine's 100-acre estate vineyard lies on the southern border of Napa Valley's Carneros district, overlooking the San Francisco bay with the financial district in the distance. Fog, wind, and the cold nighttime temperatures of this unique geographical area lend a distinctive regional identity to our Pinot Noir.

Growing Season

The 2021 growing season will be remembered as a winemaker's vintage. Not too cold, not too hot, not too wet, and no frost. However, we were in the grips of a multiyear drought. While we enjoy dry farming when we have average rainfall, in vintages where the rainfall is half of average (like 2021) we do irrigate to allow for ideal shoot growth and ripening. Bouchaine is lucky to have a huge reservoir so we were able to irrigate early in the season to get our vine canopies full. Drought conditions do have some positives when it comes to winemaking as they bring us smaller berries with beautifully concentrated flavors at harvest. We also lucked out with consistent weather throughout the summer giving us ideal ripening at an even pace. A little sun, a bit of water, and a lot of hard work in the vineyard allowed us to bring in a killer 2021 vintage!

Vinification

All fruit is hand-harvested at night, preserving berry integrity. After a 7-day cold soak, fruit is fermented with native yeast in open top tanks. The wine is then drawn off and the must is placed into a basket press for gentle pressing. All wines complete malolactic fermentation in French oak barrels. The vineyard blocks are kept separate for evaluation with the most intriguing blocks racked together in late Spring to assemble the finest expression of the Dijon clones from our estate. The blend is returned to barrel to allow the wine to marry before bottling.

Tasting Notes

You may have met my sister (the Pommard clone) by now. What can I say; she's flashy, juicy and lush. I know what they say about me, "She's more reserved and mercurial, blah, blah, blah." But give me time and once I unwind . . . watch out. Layers of dense dark fruit entwined with more spice than I know what to do with. Like I said, give me time . . . but don't miss your chance.

Appellation

Napa Valley, Carneros

Vineyard

Estate

Aging

10 months

Harvest Date

September 7, 2021

Bottling Date

August 16, 2022

Maturation

35% new French oak

PH

3.5

TA

5.86 g/L

RS

0 g/L

Alcohol

14.5%

Production

336 cases (750ml)

Suggested Retail

\$65

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ESTATE GROWN ♦ SUSTAINABLY FARMED ♦ FAMILY OWNED