

HESTAN VINEYARDS

Sonoma Coast ✦ Walala Vineyard

2018 Vincent Christopher Pinot Noir



Vineyards

The Walala Vineyard is perched along a ridge 1,200 feet above sea level, just inland from the rugged Sonoma coastline near the coastal town of Annapolis. In its position above the dense fog line, the vineyard experiences the moderate temperatures that give grapes longer hang times for optimal flavor and ripeness. The site's gravelly loam soils provide an excellent foundation for clones 113, and 828. This vineyard allows long hang time due to its close proximity to the coast, while the elevation gives the vines ample sunlight in which to ripen.

Growing Season

A mild spring and early growing season characterized the 2018 Sonoma Coast vintage. Cool evening temperatures highlighted a long and even growing season in the Walala Vineyard. Ripening occurred over the course of summer and early fall, allowing the grapes to gain ripe tannins and complex flavors while retaining their acidity. All in all, 2018 will be considered a near-perfect vintage for Sonoma Coast

Vinification

The grapes are night-harvested to achieve maximum flavors when pressed. The fruit is hand sorted, destemmed and cold soaked for 3-5 days. After the yeast inoculation occurs, three-a-day punch-downs happen prior to pressing. After pressing, the wine is aged in once-used Burgundy barrels for 2-3 months and then barreled for 11 more months before bottling.

Tasting Notes

A pleasant mix of earthy notes with black cherry, tea and red fruit highlight the aromas in this vintage. The palate shows dark black cherry with vanilla, stewed fruit, and a hint of white pepper. The wine has a rich middle palate and a hint of orange peel on the long finish. A classic wine for the Sonoma Coast. Drink in 5-7 years.

Appellation: Sonoma Coast AVA

Vineyard: Walala

Barreling: new French oak 50%

Winemaker: Jeff Gaffner

Blend: 100% Pinot Noir
Dijon clones 113 and 828

Aging: 14 months

PH: 3.5

TA: 5.9 g/L

Alcohol: 14.5%

Production: 691 cases

SRP: \$85.00

Bottling date: March 19, 2020