

# CHATEAU ST JEAN

## 2019 BENOIST RANCH PINOT NOIR

SINGLE VINEYARD

SONOMA COAST

Our roots are in Sonoma County. We have made wines from the region's diverse vineyards for over 50 years, starting in 1973. A fine wine estate with European style, we are proud to produce balanced and elegant wines, a hallmark of Chateau St. Jean. Our single-vineyard and blend expressions celebrate Sonoma County's distinctive, world-class growing region, and the special vineyard sites in which our grapes are grown.

### VINEYARDS

The Benoist Ranch is tucked away in the far northwest corner of Carneros, within the southwest area of the Sonoma Coast appellation. Unlike most of this region, which is largely uplifted bay bottoms with soils composed of clay, the soils at Benoist Ranch are of volcanic origin. These well-drained, rocky upland soils and the proximity to the Pacific Ocean and San Pablo Bay make this site an ideal place to grow Burgundian varieties. Individual vineyards within the ranch average only eight acres in size and spacing is dense to ensure low per-vine yields of fully-concentrated fruit.

### VINTAGE

The 2019 growing season started later than usual in many California wine regions. A wet spring followed by cool temperatures allowed the grapes to mature gradually. Cool temperatures continued throughout the growing season resulting in longer hang time and lower sugar yields. Vintners are praising the full flavors, fresh acidity and superb balance of the 2019 vintage.

### WINEMAKING

Our Pinot Noir grapes are sorted, crushed and destemmed before a 10-day fermentation on skins. Pump overs are conducted regularly for the duration of primary fermentation. Once primary fermentation is complete, the wine is drained, pressed and barreled down for 18 months in French oak barrels (35% new).

### TASTING NOTES

The wine opens with cherry cola, wet earth and spearmint aromas. Incredible weight and brooding tannins frame dark cherry flavors with a long and flavorful finish. Pair with mushroom tart, triple creme brie with strawberry compote, or prosciutto pizza.

2019

APPELLATION	Sonoma Coast
VARIETAL	100% Pinot Noir
OAK	100% French oak, 35% new
AGING	18 months
ALCOHOL	14.4%
T.A.	6.1 g/L
PH	3.65