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BOUCHAINE

N A P A V A L L E Y ♦ C A R N E R O S

2021 Swan Clone Pinot Noir, Estate Selection



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 night time 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 using native yeast in open-top tanks. Post-fermentation, the wine is drawn off and the must placed into a basket press for gentle pressing. The vineyard blocks are kept separate and allowed to evolve in French oak barrels, with the most intriguing barrels set aside to assemble the finest expression of the Swan Clone from our estate. The wine is kept on primary lees right up until bottling for added nuance and depth.

Tasting Notes

Each sip of this wine brings a word association game to mind. Swan Clone . . . Swan Lake . . . Ballet . . . Ballet Dancers . . . Graceful. And like the ballet dancers themselves, this wine has a gracefulness to the palate with the structure to support it. A wine that is light on its feet, evoking flavors and aromas of just-ripe strawberry, fresh cherry, and cinnamon. Each time you open a bottle is an opening-night not to be missed.

Appellation

Napa Valley, Carneros

Vineyard

Estate

Aging

10 months

Harvest Date

September 9, 2021

Bottling Date

August 11, 2022

Maturation

21% new French oak

PH

3.5

TA

5.7 g/L

RS

0 g/L

Alcohol

14.4%

Production

353 cases (750ml)

1075 BUCHLI STATION ROAD, NAPA, CA 94559 | 800.654.WINE | 707.252.9065 | BOUCHAINE.COM

ESTATE GROWN ♦ SUSTAINABLY FARMED ♦ FAMILY OWNED