



2017 Anderson Valley Pinot Noir *Confluence Vineyard - Hillside*

In addition to marking the coming together of two creeks, our Confluence Vineyard embodies two distinct terroirs: rich-soiled benchlands and a steep hillside. This diversity has inspired two limited-production Pinot Noirs – Confluence Hillside and Confluence Lower Bench. Confluence’s hillside vines struggle in exposed wash-rock soils and the small berries yield a big, beautifully textured wine with bright red fruit flavors and lush silky tannins that have become the hallmark of Confluence Vineyard.

In the Vineyard

The 2017 season began with plentiful rains that resulted in healthy vines and an excellent crop. After ideal temperate weather throughout the summer, a significant September heat spell ushered in a brisk start to harvest. A return to normal temperatures, combined with thoughtful irrigation, slowed the pace and allowed us to continue picking each site at optimal levels of ripeness. The grapes arrived at our winery in exceptional condition, resulting in complex wines that embody the rustic elegance of great Anderson Valley winemaking.

Comments from the Winemaker

Once again, the hillside vines of Confluence Vineyard have yielded a vibrant and luxurious Pinot Noir with complex aromas of rich strawberry compote, iron earth and leather. On the palate, pure, focused flavors of strawberry and cherry are impeccably balanced by firm tannins and a bright acidity that bring out the more delicate nuances in this wine’s long, satisfying finish.

Varietal Content

100% Pinot Noir

Harvest Information

Appellation: Anderson Valley
Harvest Dates: September 3 – 10
Average Sugar at Harvest: 25.0° Brix

Cooperage

100% French oak
Barrel Aging: 16 months
60% new, 20% neutral, 20% second vintage

Production and Technical Data

Alcohol: 14.5%
0.565 g/100 ml titratable acidity
15 days fermentation at 75°F
pH: 3.76

