

## 2020 PONZI PINOT NOIR ROSÉ



“ Classic aromas of powdered sugar, chamomile and candied lemon peel mingle with notes of brioche, honeycomb and key lime. The mouth gives a salty freshness, slight pineapple and nectarine along with poached pear, cinnamon and white peppercorn. The long finish is laced with juicy acidity ”

—WINEMAKER LUISA PONZI

**RELEASE DATE:**

*Fall 2021*

**SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE:**

\$25

**NATIONALLY DISTRIBUTED BY:**

*Vintus*

**2020 VINTAGE:** Heading into the 2020 vintage, we knew it would be like no other. Making wine under Covid restrictions and protocols would be a challenge in itself: the absence of an international intern crew, working at a distance from co-workers, using masks, sanitizer, and the rest was plenty to manage. But we had no idea of the extent of how unusual it would be until the 10th of September.

The Chehalem Mountains fire erupted just two days after bringing in Pinot Noir from Avellana Vineyard. This fire, along with the others burning across the state caused smoke to fill the valley and linger for over a week. Winemakers across the West Coast quickly shared information, learning all they could on how to mitigate the effects of the unprecedented event. The team quickly adapted and our friendships across the globe, especially among those in regions who had previous experience with such challenges, were there to help us through the vintage. We performed multiple experiments and quickly had samples tested to determine our course.

The heartbreak of this year, was that beneath that smoke, it had been shaping up to be a spectacular vintage. A cool and wet spring resulted in small yields of intense fruit, a dry summer and the slow cooling going

into fall had us all excited for an amazing harvest. We made the tough decision to leave most remaining Pinot noir from other vineyards on the vine and pass on the vintage.

But in the end, the white wines were the stars. The ability to press off the skins (which hold the smoke compounds) and retain the beautiful fruit from the season made for some gorgeous wines. It was a year of learning and the challenge of the 2020 vintage brought an already strange year, to a fitting end.

**VINEYARDS:** The fruit for our Rosé is intentionally selected for Rosé with an eye towards cooler sites which retain juicy, vibrant acidity. The 2020 Ponzi Pinot Noir Rosé is a blend of fruit from our Aurora Vineyard in the Laurelwood District AVA.

**FERMENTATION:** The fruit was whole cluster pressed to stainless steel for fermentation. The fermentation was cool and long and malolactic was inhibited to retain the bright, fresh fruit character. Alcohol is 12%. Finished pH is 3.23. Residual sugar is 3.46g/