

JOYFUL, VIBRANT,
TEXTURED



2021 Ponzi Laurelwood Pinot Noir

ROBERT PARKER
96 POINTS

JAMES SUCKLING
93 POINTS

APPELLATION
LAURELWOOD AVA

VINEYARDS
AVELLANA, AURORA,
LINDA VISTA, PALOMA,
ALLORO, GEMINI

SOIL
LAURELWOOD

VARIETAL
PINOT NOIR

TA
5.5

PH
3.69

ALC
13.4%



WINEMAKER'S NOTES

"The initial nose of spiced black cherry, blackberry reduction and cinnamon expand to aromas of white pepper spice, lavender and bergamot. The mouth is velvety textured with honeyed notes and savory hints of juniper, sage, and cedar. The lingering tannins hold a hint of graphite and dark chocolate."

VINTAGE 2021

This vintage brought relief and smiles to grape growers and winemakers in the valley. Following the challenges of the smoke-filled 2020 vintage and the "heat dome" events in the summer of 2021, there were concerns about what this year would hold. Fortunately, the heat events had minimal impact, even potentially eliminating mildew issues. September rains refreshed the vines, and the fruit came in mid-September, clean, ripe, and flavorful. Similar to 2012, cool nights resulted in wines with balanced acidity, aromatic richness, and delicious full flavors. Despite smaller yields than expected, the wines showcase intensified color and structure. After challenging years, the Valley was filled with happy and energized individuals, eager to harvest and create beautiful wines once again, and this joy is likely reflected in the wines themselves.

VINEYARDS

This Pinot Noir is a blend of fruit from the new Laurelwood District AVA; Ponzi Vineyard's Avellana and Aurora Vineyard and Linda Vista Vineyards, Paloma, Alloro, and Gemini. All LIVE Certified Sustainable and grown in Laurelwood soil.

FERMENTATION

The fruit was hand sorted with 35% whole cluster fermented and 65% destemmed. Fermented in small lots with five days of cold soak to increase aroma and color, the peak temperatures reached 90°F. The fermenters were aerated or manually punched down twice a day (for 12-20 days) before 5 days of post fermentation maceration. This wine was aged in French oak barrels (37% new) for 14 months. It was racked and bottled by gravity and aged in bottle for 12 months before its release.