

# 2022 Wrath Pinot Noir, Cortada Alta Vineyard

#### Overview

Wrath represents a nexus of nature and an unbridled passion for winemaking. We produce site-driven Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Syrah, Falanghina and Sauvignon Blanc from our estate vineyard and respected properties in the Santa Lucia Highlands. Our production is small, our distribution is limited and our wines reveal attitude, passion, and an inherent respect for what a vineyard can give us.

## **Philosophy**

Our wines are a record of the topography, geology and climate of a finite, naturally defined piece of land over the span of a growing season. They chronicle the elaborate dance between terroir, grape, people and time. While all of our wines possess strong varietal characteristics, their real strength is their ability to deliver the unique aromatics, flavors and textures of a specific site.

## Vineyard

Wrath's newest single vineyard offering, Cortada Alta is the highest vineyard in the Santa Lucia Highlands. At 1,400 feet, the vines sit above the fog in a notch between granite outcroppings that collected rich loam soil. The slopes are steep which mandates handpicking. There is a large temperature shift from very warm, sunbaked days to cold, windswept nights. This stress results in smaller berries and thicker skins that all translates into deeper flavors.

### **Production Notes**

The 2022 vintage in Monterey was a challenging year because of temperature fluctuations. The general growing year was excellent and the heat around Labor Day was predicted so we had ripe fruit and plenty of time to harvest before the heat affected the vines. All in all, it was a very good growing season and resulted in high quality fruit because of lower than usual yields. Both Mariafeld and Wadenswill pinot clones came to California from Switzerland in the 1950s. Mariafeld has a unique flavor and higher acidity than other pinots. Wadenswill is prized for its aromatics and ability to grow and ripen in a cold climate. Hand harvested and hand sorted, the grapes are cold soaked for three days before inoculation. Clonal lots are kept separated in small open-top bins during fermentation and 20% of the bins go through whole cluster fermentation. Close monitoring ensures that production stages are implemented at optimal periods. The young wine is racked into an assortment of barrels, only French oak, from various tonnelleries for added complexity. This wine was aged for 10 months before filtering, bottling and laying down for another 12 months of bottle aging before release

#### **Technical Data**

Composition 100% Pinot Noir
Vineyard Cortada Alta Vineyard
AVA Santa Lucia Highlands

Clones Mariafeld- 50% and Wadenswill-50%

Oak French oak, 20% new

Alcohol 14.3 Cases produced 136 SRP \$55