

BARHAM MENDELSON

2022

Pinot Noir

In 1998, Barbara Barham Mendelsohn and Richard Mendelsohn planted 5 acres of Pinot Noir at their Lala Panzi Ranch in the Russian River Valley near Healdsburg in Sonoma County. To achieve their goal of producing exemplary Pinot Noir using strict, farming methods, they engaged like-minded, top industry leaders viviculturalist Fred Peterson and winemaker Jim Clendenen. A joint venture between Jim Clendenen and the Mendelsohns created the Barham Mendelsohn label.

AT A GLANCE

APPELLATION:
Russian River Valley

VINEYARD:
Lala Panzi

VARIETAL:
100% Pinot Noir

COOPERAGE:
18 months, 33% new François
Frères French oak barrels

HARVEST: August 18, 2022

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

ACIDITY: 6.2 g/L

pH: 3.53

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <0

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$40

From The Winemaker

The vineyard is farmed with meticulous attention to detail. Farming at Lala Panzi includes careful canopy management, manual tilling and weed control, and close monitoring of ripening, culminating in an early morning harvest at optimal balance. Multiple Pinot Noir clones planted throughout the vineyard contribute layers and depth. The 2022 growing season saw ample sunshine, allowing for excellent phenolic development and concentration of flavors. Fruit was picked just prior to a late-season heat event, arriving at the winery in superb condition.

As with all our Pinot Noirs, we take a hands-on approach. A long, slow fermentation in 5-ton open-top fermenters enhances both delicacy and complexity. Manual punchdowns are performed twice daily to gently extract color and structure. The wine is pressed dry and aged for 18 months in François Frères French oak barrels, 33% new.

Tasting Notes

The 2022 vintage shows impressive complexity. Aromas of black cherry, currant, and bramble berry are accented by dried thyme, sumac, and sassafras. On the palate, flavors of plum, bitter almond, sarsaparilla, and molasses unfold with richness and persistence. Fine, drying tannins carry through the finish.

Food Pairings

Pair this Pinot Noir with grilled steak, roasted lamb, or herb-crusted pork. It also complements earthy dishes such as roasted root vegetables or grilled portobello mushrooms.



Au Bon Climat & Clendenen Family Vineyards

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