

MERRYVALE

VINEYARDS

2019 Pinot Noir Brown Ranch, Carneros



Winemaking

The fruit for this single vineyard bottling of Pinot Noir came from Brown Ranch on the Napa side of Carneros. Hand harvested before dawn in early September, the grapes were whole berry fermented after a 5-day cold soak in open top stainless steel tanks using native yeasts. We performed hand punchdowns, minimal pumpovers, then drained and pressed at dryness—a Classic Burgundian approach. The wine spent 18 months in French oak barrels, of which 30% were new, before being bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

Vintage

The beginning of the 2019 growing season was defined by copious rainfall and late soil moisture. The long, warm summer saw very few extreme heat events, with foggy mornings setting the stage for vibrant and expressive wines. The long, relatively mild finish to the season helped to preserve freshness and finesse in the fruit teasing out great color, structure and soft tannins. All in all, exceptional fruit with bright acidity and ample texture has resulted in an amazing vintage.

Tasting Notes

2019 was a great vintage for Pinot Noir in Carneros. Average temperatures and a long growing season led into an ideal harvest where all grapes were picked at optimum ripeness and balance. A Pinot Noir for those who love the classic Carneros New World style from one of the great Carneros Pinot vineyards. Exhibiting aromas of ripe black cherries, cola, and brambly red fruits, this medium bodied, silky Pinot is loaded with layers of pleasure. All the aromatics come through on the palate, combining with a hint of new oak spice. Still retaining the trademark regional bright acidity, this wine is long, complex, and will evolve and delight over the next 10 years.

Appellation:	Carneros (Napa)
Blend:	100% Pinot Noir
Vineyards:	Brown Ranch, Blocks G1 and G2
Cooperage:	30% new French oak barrels for 18 months
Alc:	14.1%
PH:	4.03
TA:	4.6 g/L

EST. 1983

