

Winemaker Theresa Heredia (pictured right) is a pioneer of cool-climate viticulture in Sonoma; she has been with the estate since 2012



# Russian River Pinot Noir 2021

# Russian River Valley, California

#### **ESTATE**

For over 38 years, Gary Farrell Winery has crafted small-lot artisan wines capturing balance and stylistic elegance from some of the finest vineyard sites in the Russian River Valley. In 1985, Winemaker Gary Farrell released his 55 cases of 1982 Rochioli-Allen Pinot Noir to widespread critical acclaim. Since that release, the team at Gary Farrell Winery has consistently focused on rigorous vineyard selection, outstanding grower relationships, and superior quality fruit. For the past 8 years, the current owners have been dedicated to enhancing Gary Farrell's legacy with a single-minded focus on quality.

#### WINE

A beautiful expression of the varietal and of the appellation's unique terroir, this Pinot Noir blend captures the richness, purity and elegance that are Gary Farrell Winery's trademarks.

### **VINEYARD**

Sources: Bacigalupi, Rochioli, Toboni, Nonella, Hallberg, Dutton, McDonald Mountain, Martadella, Pratt-Lakeview, Marshall Ranch, Castro, Abigail's

Farming: Sonoma County will become the nation's first 100% certified sustainable wine region; currently, 90% of Gary Farrell's grower partners are certified or pending certification through California's four accepted programs.

#### WINEMAKING

Harvest: Fruit is picked at slightly lower sugar levels in order to capture more varietal character, natural acidity and site specificity

Variety: 100% Pinot Noir

Aging: 13 Months, French Oak (40% new)

Alcohol: 13.9%

## VINTAGE

2021 was a spectacular vintage. It was a drought year, so Mother Nature was responsible for trimming yields and producing a plentiful and beautifully balanced crop. This was a nice contrast compared to previous drought years when the crop was very small and the wines were more muscular. In 2021, the clusters were medium in size and the berries were plump with a good number of seeds, excellent skin to juice ratio and beautiful acidity. The summer months had beautiful ripening weather with very few heat spikes, allowing the grapes to ripen evenly, while having time to develop lots of flavor. Veraison began in mid to late July and the weather from that point until harvest was perfectly moderate yielding excellent hang time and world class wines.

## **TASTING NOTES**

"This gorgeous Pinot Noir opens with seductive aromas of cherry liquor, sweet tobacco, fresh fennel, rose petal and boysenberry preserves. The broad, youthful, tangy, yet complex palate offers juicy flavors of blood orange, sour cherry jam, tamarind, raspberry jerk sauce, with a hint of savory green plantains. The firm tannins and tangy acidity create a full-bodied texture, lending to the incredibly long, spicy finish." – Theresa Heredia, Winemaker