

# Fogscape Vineyards

ARROYO SECO

Pinot Noir

2020

## APPELLATION

The Arroyo Seco American Viticultural Area (AVA) is located near Greenfield in Monterey County. One of the smaller California growing areas, it spans 18,000 acres with half planted to vines. While less well known than the adjoining Santa Lucia Highlands, Arroyo Seco wines are increasingly gaining recognition for excellence. A cool maritime climate, ample sunshine, shaded canyons, and rocky soils produce wines with structure, balance, and finesse.

## VINEYARDS

- \* Suter: 72% - Vineyard shaded by the Santa Lucia Mountain; delicate, floral Pinot Noir
- \* Windmill: 13% - Terraced, rocky Pinot Noir vineyard on the banks of the Arroyo Seco River; wines with concentration and depth
- \* Chareva: 15% - Steeply sloped vineyard on the Arroyo Seco Canyon hillsides; elegant, earthy, complex Pinot Noir

Pinot Noir Clones: Dijon 113, 114, 115, 667 & 777 ; Pommard, Joris, Pisoni, 829, 459

Soils: Lockwood Series shale loam, granite stones, river pebbles

Grape Sourcing: 100% Arroyo Seco AVA

## VINTAGE

The 2020 vintage was a difficult year for California vintners due to heat spikes and wildfires, but despite the challenges, the Arroyo Seco region pulled through with a solid growing season and excellent quality fruit. The heat spikes were tempered by the area's marine layer, which cools off the vineyards at night, allowing the vines to withstand warm day temperatures, as occurred in mid-August prior to harvest. As for the wildfires, the main impact was a slight delay in the ripening of fruit.

## WINEMAKING

The grapes were field destemmed, then cold soaked for 4 days, followed by 7-10 days of fermentation in open-top fermenters. Free-run juice from individual vineyard blocks and first press juice were fermented in separate lots. The wine was aged in a combination of new and seasoned French oak barrels for 10 months and racked once prior to bottling. The best lots were hand-selected barrel by barrel to pick the best lots for the blend. The wine was gently fined and filtered prior to bottling.

Winemaker: José Ramirez

Varietal Blend: 100% Pinot Noir

Alc. By Vol. 14.5%, TA 5.1%, pH 3.65, RS 1.0 g/L

## WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Bouquet: Vibrant rose petals, red currant

Palate: Medium-bodied, dark cherry and raspberry, silky, complex

Finish: Extended, with hints of Mexican chocolate, dried flowers, and lingering berry notes

Suggested Pairings: Rack of lamb with thyme and garlic, seared duck breast with braised fennel, wild mushroom risotto with truffle oil.

