



STEMMLER

Lawler Vineyard

2020 STEMMLER PINOT NOIR
SONOMA COAST



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THE 2020 VINTAGE REPORT

If there's one thing that can be said for the 2020 growing season, it's that it was anything but dull. A lack of winter rain led to our first ever winter irrigations, which helped manage our water deficit. Frost in late March decreased yields, however, this increased the concentration of flavor in the fruit. We also had a very unusual late spring hailstorm, although it was not severe enough to damage the vines. The summer progressed quite nicely with even weather for ripening. It looked like we were set up for a perfect vintage until an August heatwave hit with accompanying lightning that set off wildfires across California. To avoid smoke damage, we began harvesting immediately and nearly completed our harvest within just a few days. The resulting wines are therefore a little bit lighter than usual, but with plenty of bright fruit and wonderful concentration.

VINEYARD NOTES

The Lawler Vineyard sits just a few miles from the Pacific Coast, where morning fog and afternoon maritime wind result in a cool climate perfect for slowly ripening Pinot Noir. The heart of the Lawler vineyard lies in the Freestone area, a sheltered, pastoral valley where hillside vineyards bask in sun when it breaks through the fog.

Blended from several different blocks within the vineyard, we take care to harvest each block separately at its optimum ripeness, and ferment and age each block separately until blending. After 10 months of ageing, we carefully sort through each lot, making sure to only select barrels that will lead to the most harmonious finished wine.

TECHNICAL NOTES

ALCOHOL: 14.2% TA: 5.5 g/L PH: 3.8

TASTING NOTES

The 2020 Lawler Pinot Noir is deep ruby in color, with a purple core. The nose opens with aromas of strawberry, blackberry, and baking spice. The palate is focused and pure, with berry flavors joined by sassafras, lavender and a hint of vanilla. The finish is structured, with round tannins and a lingering impression of berry and spice.

Drinking window: 2021-2025