THE BUTLER

2020 VINTAGE, BUTLER RANCH

Mendocino County | Crafted from Certified Biodynamic® Grapes



DENSITY	600-1200 Vines/Acre
AGE OF VINES	15-40 Years
APPELLATION	Mendocino County
VINEYARD	Butler Ranch Vineyard
VARIETAL CONTENT	
SYRAH	63%
PETITE SIRAH	18%
MOURVÈDRE	12%
GRENACHE	6%
VIOGNIER	1%
CASES PRODUCED	2,000
TA G/100ML	6.4
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.88

Biodynamic® farming brings together soil, plants, animals and humans to create a harmonious ecosystem that follows the cycles of nature. Our single-vineyard wines, crafted from biodynamically farmed estate fruit, epitomize balance—in the vineyard and in the glass.

VINEYARD NOTES

More than 1,500 feet above the Russian River, Butler Ranch drapes over a set of rolling ridge-top knolls on the eastern edge of the California Coast Range, which separates the cool, foggy coastline from the hot and dry interior to the east. The ranch sits at the boundary, surrounded by dense native woodlands, and captures the best of both worlds.

HARVEST NOTES

Winter was relatively dry, only bringing about half the amount of rain of an average season. Spring did experience more frost days than a typical season, but with a mild to moderate overall temperatures, bud break and flowering occurred about a week earlier than 2019. The yields of a lot of varietals, including Syrah and Petite Sirah were affected, resulting in lower than normal yields. August and September were warm, bringing a few heat spikes into the region which sped up harvest by a couple of weeks from the average harvest season. Smaller than normal berry size resulted in increased phenolic content and concentration.

WINEMAKING NOTES

The fruit for this Rhône-style blend was harvested by hand at optimal ripeness over several weeks. Select vineyard blocks and varieties were fermented separately in stainless steel tanks for 10 to 14 days. The wine aged for 14 months in 100 percent French oak barrels, 12 percent of which were new oak, before the final blend was assembled.

TASTING NOTES

The 2020 vintage offers extraordinary finesse, power and intensity. Earthy notes of pepper, game and wild herbs underscore lovely blue fruit aromas on the nose. The muscular palate delivers spicy mixed berries and purple fruit, with charismatic slate-tinged tannins that support the wine throughout the clean, peppery blue fruit finish.