

# HIRSCH VINEYARDS

## 2019 *West Ridge* Estate Pinot Noir

"The wines of the West Ridge have a gentle, supple personality, and are, shall we say, *romantic*."  
– David Hirsch

The West Ridge is a series of ridge top vineyard blocks, located in the center of Hirsch. The soils on the West Ridge are highly heterogeneous, ranging from heavy black clay to sand to loam to yellow clay mixed with rock.

The foundation of the *West Ridge* Pinot Noir is Block 7, planted in 1992 with cuttings David Hirsch took from the Mount Eden Vineyard in the Santa Cruz Mountains (read his complete history [here](#)). It is a true *massale* selection, with a diverse genetic makeup. The lineage of these plants can be traced back to Paul Masson, who brought Pinot Noir cuttings from Burgundy to California in the late 1800s. The genetic diversity of the plants imparts greater complexity to the wine, but also perpetuates leaf-roll virus that came with the vines from Burgundy. The virus inhibits the ability of the vines to carry out photosynthesis and produce sugar. The result is wines that are more delicate, naturally lower in alcohol, and have extremely fine tannins.

The *West Ridge* Pinot Noir also includes the very best barrels from Blocks 6 and 12, planted to the heritage California Pinot Noir clones of Swan and Pommard-Wädenswil. The *West Ridge* is the most delicate and transparent of our wines, seducing with complexity and mystery, rather than with power.

Vine age:	Planted 1990-95	91%
	Planted 2002	9%
Blocks:	Block 6	45%
	Block 7	46%
	Block 12	9%
Clones:	Mount Eden	46%
	Swan	22%
	Pommard-Wädenswil	32%
New oak:	31%	
Production:	270 cases	
Bottling date:	March 1, 2021	
Formats:	750ml and magnum	
Whole cluster:	30%	
New oak:	31%	
Alcohol:	12.4%	

