



Blue Slide Ridge Pinot Noir
Sonoma Coast
2009

Vineyard Character

Blue Slide Ridge is named for its magnificent formations of blue rock. Directly below the vineyard a sheer cliff drops into the small winding “Marshall Creek”, showing off great cerulean shards jutting out from beneath the earth’s surface. In 1995 Lee and Carolyn Martinelli planted this six acre vineyard of Pinot Noir on a steep slope which was once prime grazing land for sheep. This vineyard is truly a “coastal” vineyard, as it is located on the second ridge inland from the Pacific coastline.

Wine Statistics

After picking, the grape clusters are de-stemmed and the whole berries undergo a long cool fermentation, with indigenous yeast, to generate skin contact and extract fruit character. It is then allowed to rest and mature in 90% new French oak on its gross lees for ten months without interruption. The grapes, juice, and then wine are minimally handled.

Case Production: 161

Tasting Notes

The 2009 Blue Slide Ridge Pinot Noir has dark fruit flavors of blueberry and cherry with an underlying floral component. This is a lush wine with moderate tannins.

Historical Acclaim

2007 Vintage

- 94 points. Robert M. Parker, Jr., The Wine Advocate
- 91 points. Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar

Winemaker: Bryan Kvamme

Consulting Winemaker: Helen Turley