

BIG BASIN

VINEYARDS

Our approach to winegrowing is rooted in the earth and refined by hand. Great wines are grown, not made so we farm organically, harvest by hand, ferment with native yeast, never filter or fine and use minimal sulfur. Ocean breezes, rocky soils, mountainous terrain establish the Santa Cruz and Gabilan Mountains as exceptional winegrowing terroir. Each vineyard we work with has a unique personality that inspires us to let them speak for themselves. Our steep windswept hillsides first planted over 100 years ago are now planted to Pinot Noir, Syrah, Grenache, and Roussanne. Founder and winemaker Bradley Brown has evolved the style at Big Basin to produce wines with more energy, intensity and dimension that speak clearly of their mountain origins.



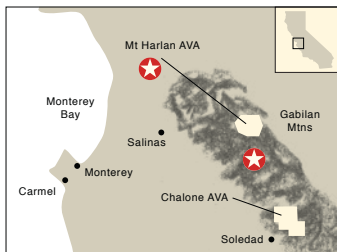
2016 MONTEREY COUNTY PINOT NOIR

VINEYARDS

The two vineyards that make up this cuvée, Coastview Vineyard and Olson Vineyard, are located in two of the most extreme sites in Monterey County. Coastview is the highest elevation vineyard at 2200 feet on a mountain top overlooking the Salinas Valley. The decomposed granite with limestone veins produce beautiful high toned floral notes. Olson is planted in ancient sand dunes that are often blanketed in fog that rolls in off of Monterey Bay. It is not unusual for this to be the last Pinot we harvest. The combination of these two vineyards make for elegant aromatics and vibrant fruit on the palate.

WINEMAKER NOTES

2016 was a vintage marked by decent rains during the prior winter with excellent weather during the growing season. Yields were reasonable and quality high. All of the Pinot from both vineyards was harvested between August 29 - September 7. Well lignified stems allowed us to use 85% whole clusters. Virtually nothing else was added to the wine until after the fermentation was complete when a small amount of SO₂ was used. We find that the use of whole clusters amplifies aromatic complexity and adds a layer of texture. Like our other Pinot Noirs, the aromatics are lifted and expressive while the wine has an underlying structure that will gain body over the potentially long life of this wine.



Vineyards:

Coastview & Olson

Vine Age:

17 years

Elevation:

2200 ft & 180 ft

Soil:

Decomposed granite with Limestone; Ancient Sand Dunes

Clones:

Pinot Noir Swan,
114, 115, 667, 777

Fermentation:

Native primary &
Malo-lactic

Alcohol:

13.5%

Elavage:

11 months French Oak;
No new

No filtration or fining

Cases Produced:

445

Retail Price:

\$36