
LIOCO

2023 *Lejano*
Sonoma Coast
Pinot Noir

AROMA

cranberry, kirsch, Earl Grey

FLAVOR

cocoa nibs, Morello cherry, cola berry

FOOD PAIRINGS

5-spice chicken wings, turkey burgers, roasted steelhead

VINIFICATION

1.2 T of Swan Clone +1.3 T of Pommard hand harvested & sorted on Sept 30th & Oct 4th. Fermented on wild yeasts in small open-top tanks with 25% whole clusters. A 4-day cold soak preceded a 14-day, spontaneous fermentation. Once daily punchdowns provided gentle extraction. Aged for 10 mos in 16% new French oak barrels. Bottled unfinned/unfiltered.

SITE

Lejano is Spanish for "distant" or "far away," which aptly characterizes the remote Sonoma Coast vineyards we source from. These fringy sites are situated 5-14 miles from the Pacific Ocean on a series of ridgelines and/or valleys at 400-700ft—placing them at the edge of the fog line. Clones Pommard & Swan planted in the late 1990s on diverse soils of sandy clay loam strewn with fossilized seashells. The extreme microclimate and meagre soils require a steady temperament and a willingness to work with low yields.

NOTES

New vineyard opportunities pushed the source pedigree higher on this wine in 2023. Two primo vineyards near Forestville, previously under contract by other wineries for top tier designate level programs, availed themselves to LIOCO at distressed fruit market prices. Pocket Canyon is on a steep slope enclosed by redwoods in a cold fog-choked canyon west of Forestville. This site is dry-farmed-by-default because the coyotes chew on the drip lines rendering them ineffective. Pea-sized berries result. Green Valley Vineyard enjoys a similar aspect, and boasts some prized Swan Clone. And the magic spice in the blend? A healthy dash of Sealift Vineyard, which is our vineyard designate on the West Sonoma Coast near Annapolis. This 2023 shows breeding. It also resonates with a very special vintage that found us picking these sites well into the growing year, in some cases in mid-October. The wine has fully ripened stems (25% whole cluster) and sappy berry bramble fruit.

DETAILS

Vineyard: Cole Ranch, Edmeades, Peterson	pH: 3.5 Brix 22.5°
Appellation: Anderson Valley	Total acidity: 5.7 g/l
County: Mendocino	Residual sugar: 0.2 g/l
Winemaker: Drew Huffine	Alcohol: 13.6%
Production: 175 cases + 3 cases magnums	Yield: 2.5 T/acre
Anticipated maturity: 2028+	Clones: Pommard, 115, 777
	Harvest dates: 10/7/22 - 10/12/22
	Bottling dates: 07/10

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