



LA FOLLETTE

AN ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH SINGULAR VINEYARDS

2017 HAWK'S ROOST PINOT NOIR

Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

VINEYARD STORY

Planted to UCD 23 clone from a selection imported from Wadenswil, Switzerland in 1966 (also known as the Mariafeld clone) with an east-west planting orientation that is uncharacteristic for this region results in wines that are big, muscular, and evenly ripened. Chuck and Gayle Jones, who own this property, live on site along with ducks that control the weeds and insects (talk about organic!) and a friendly pack of Labrador Retrievers.

THE PLACE

Vineyard Size: 5.5 acres

Soil Type: Huichica series loam
with a clay substrate

Elevation: 76'

Clone: UCD 23

Rootstock: 101-14

Aspect: 90% East-West;
10% North-South

Spacing: 5' x 8'

Year Planted: 1998

WINEMAKING

Harvest Pick: September 7, 2017

No sulphur added prior to fermentation

100% native yeast primary and secondary
fermentation

Bottled: August 9, 2019

11 months in low toast, air-dried 3-year-old
French oak, 25% new

CHEMISTRY

ABV: 13.8 | pH: 3.56 | TA: 5.80

SENSORY

The thick-structured UCD 23 clone is typically a blending clone but the combination of this planting and the vineyard terroir makes this an exceptional standalone bottling. The dark, brooding color sets the wine's intention – it is not shy. The floral nose includes violets and then moves to flavors of dark fruit include blueberry, blackberry, and dried Damson plum. There's a touch of briar that we find appealing. The firm structure will bode well for several years of bottle aging through 2024-2026. Fairly big in feel, it is a nice companion to heartier fall/winter fare and can be enjoyed with lamb lollipops, steak with a blue cheese melt, or cream of mushroom soup.

CASES

223 | \$45



Robert Parker
WINE ADVOCATE

