

Littorai,

`Hirsch Vineyard` Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir 2021
Sonoma County, California, USA

Littorai



PRODUCER

Husband and wife team Ted and Heidi Lemon are behind this family-run winery, established in 1993. Ted began his career in Burgundy and has worked for some of the region's top estates including Domaine Guy Roulot in Meursault where he was winemaker and vineyard manager, the first American to ever hold such a position in Burgundy! Heidi has similarly worked for some of California's top producers including Robert Long Vineyards and Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. Ted and Heidi's mission with Littorai was to find the best spot to grow Pinot Noir and Chardonnay along the littoral (coastal) zones of the U.S.A. They searched the west coast before finally finding their top spot in the 'true' north of California - the coastal mountains of Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. All the vineyards have been farmed biodynamically since 2001 and there is minimal intervention in the winemaking.

VINEYARDS

Littorai is the longest-standing buyer of fruit from the Hirsch vineyard and is also responsible for converting the site to biodynamic farming. The site is a series of ridged hilltops, which run inland from the Pacific Ocean at 365 to 472 metres above sea level. This is San Andreas Fault territory, resulting in varied and complex soils.

VINTAGE

The 2021 vintage marked the third drought year in a row for California. While rainfall was minimal, the precipitation was spread nicely across the season. Water stress management was ultimately key to the success of this vintage. The 2021 Pinot Noirs are extremely concentrated and structured as a result of the warm weather.

VINIFICATION

The fruit from the Hirsch vineyard was carefully hand selected before pressing. After pressing, the must underwent fermentation at controlled temperatures with 32% of grapes kept whole bunch. The wine then spent 16 months in 25% new French oak barrels before bottling, with no fining or filtration.

TASTING NOTES

This wine has excellent fruit intensity boasting aromas of and blackberry which intermingle with spicy tones of pepper and black tea. The fruit concentration carries through the palate with a lovely acidity and strong tannin backbone.

Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Ted Lemon
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13.5%
Residual Sugar	0.1g/L
Acidity	5.1g/L
Wine pH	3.77
Bottle Sizes	75cl, 150cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Biodynamic, Practising Organic, Vegan