

Littorai,

`Cerise Vineyard` Anderson Valley 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

Cerise is a beautiful hillside vineyard situated between 800- and 1100-foot elevation in the northeast range of mountains above the town of Booneville. This is the warmer side of the Anderson Valley, where, with the fog intrusion, there are great diurnal swings. Coupled with poor topsoils, this steep exposition allows for harvest fruit with a high skin-to- juice ratio from the struggling vines. The soils vary within the three cascading hills that make up Littorai's parcels of the vineyard allowing for complex and well-structured wines.

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 Cerise vineyard was carefully hand selected and sorted before pressing. After pressing, the wine underwent fermentation at controlled temperatures. The wine then spent 16 months in 25% new French oak before bottling, with no fining or filtration.

TASTING NOTES

Cerise is plush with sweet aromas of blackberry, candied apple and mulberry complemented by spicy cinnamon notes. The palate is lush with rich and chocolatey tannins. Excellent acidity contributes to a long, fine and understated texture.

Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Ted Lemon
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13%
Acidity	4.9g/L
Wine pH	3.47
Bottle Sizes	75cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Biodynamic, Practising Organic, Vegan