

Littorai,

Wendling Vineyard Block E` Anderson Valley Pinot Noir 2022

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

Wendling is located in the most north-westerly and coolest corner of the Anderson Valley AVA. Block E is situated on a steeply sloped, dramatic south facing plot of the vineyard with enormous potential. Biodynamic methods have been used with extraordinary care from the very beginning here. The 'Block E' designation has been added to the wine label to highlight the exceptional quality of this special Littorai block.

VINTAGE

The 2022 vintage yielded excellent quality fruit. Following several drought years in California, substantial winter rainfall helped to replenish water reserves. This was followed by a dry March. Spring frosts in April and May reduced yields. The warm late summer and autumn provided excellent ripening conditions and harvest started two weeks ahead of average. Overall, yields were slightly down, but concentration was very good.

VINIFICATION

The organically produced grapes were fermented at a controlled temperature before being matured in French Oak for 16 months, 25% of which was new. Before bottling the wine was not fined or filtered.

TASTING NOTES

On the nose fruit notes dominate the aromas; plum, blackberry, and fig are met with a hint of liquorice and black tea. The palate is dense and concentrated with great acidity and length. This wine has good ageing potential, but it is already excellent for drinking.

Grape Varieties	100% Pinot Noir
Winemaker	Ted Lemon
Closure	Natural Cork
ABV	13.5%
Acidity	5.7g/L
Wine pH	3.44
Bottle Sizes	75cl, 150cl
Notes	Vegetarian, Practising Biodynamic, Practising Organic, Vegan