



2019 Domaine Lois Louise Côté Sud

OVERVIEW

With caves tunneling deep into a vine-covered ridge in the Santa Cruz Mountains and vineyards so steep they have to be farmed with a T.J. Rodgers designed tractor moved by cables. Clos de la Tech is one of the most ambitious and innovative Pinot Noir producers in California. The winery was established in 1994 and continues to be operated by T.J. Rodgers, founder and retired CEO of Cypress Semiconductor, and his wife and winemaker, Valeta. Some of the highlights at Clos de la Tech include extreme growing conditions, high-altitude terrain, vine-by-vine farming, high-density planting (average of 4150 vines per acre), low yields, innovative equipment, gravity-flow winery, whole cluster fermentation with native yeast, and no filtration.

VINEYARD

The “Côté Sud” (the south-facing) block clings to the treacherous south-facing slope on the estate. Fully exposed and buffeted by strong maritime winds, it features a thin layer of topsoil over fractured rock and is planted to Dijon clones.

WINE MAKING

The fruit was hand-harvested between September 26th and October 25th. After a 5-7 day cold soak, the grapes underwent traditional vinification methods including foot crushing, whole cluster fermentation with native yeast, malolactic fermentation on lees and gravity transfer (no pumping). The wine was aged in François Frères barrels (Bertrange Forest) for 17 months and hand bottled unfiltered.

WINEMAKER'S COMMENTS

Nose: Very complex and intense, ripe blueberry, cherry and overtones of rose pedal.
Palate: Integrated and complex, excellent depth, and firm powerful finish
Summary: An outstanding “Côté Sud” in a full, rich style that is drinkable now.

TECHNICAL NOTES

COMPOSITION : 100% Pinot Noir

ALC. BY VOL. : 14.2%

VINEYARD : Domaine Lois Louise, 4 Acres

WINE pH : 3.69

BARREL AGING : 17 months in François Frères, 80% new

FERMENTATION: Native Yeast

HARVEST DATES: 9/26-10/25

PRODUCTION: 458 Cases

BOTTLE AGING: 3-1/2 years

WINEMAKER: Valeta Rodgers