



2019 Domaine Valeta Sunny Slope

OVERVIEW

Planted in 1999, **Domaine Valeta** sits on a mountaintop in the Santa Cruz Mountains above the Silicon Valley. It is a challenging site that endures wind, cold and the occasional snow. Of the property's 30 acres, only 3.5 acres are planted to vine. The soil's are a mix of fractured weathered sandstone and sandy loam, and the Dijon clones include 113, 114, 115 and 777.

VINEYARD

Domaine Valeta is on the next mountain just south from our three-cave winery overlooking the fabled Ridge Monte Bello vineyard in the Santa Cruz Mountains. It faces the San Francisco Bay at 2350 feet above sea level. The 3.5-acre vineyard produces our most delicate, fragrant Burgundian wine with beautiful perfume.

WINE MAKING

The fruit was hand-harvested between September 13th and the 27th. 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: Aromatic notes of blackberry, vanilla, white pepper, black tea, and rose pedal.

Palate: Velvety-textured, round and full bodied that is rich and luscious, and a harmonious finish.

Summary: An outstanding example of Sunny Slope Pinot Noir, which could be the best Sunny Slope yet.

TECHNICAL NOTES

COMPOSITION : 100% Pinot Noir

ALC. BY VOL. : 13.5%

VINEYARD : Domaine Valeta, 3.5 Acres

WINE pH : 3.69

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

FERMENTATION: Native Yeast

HARVEST DATES: 9/13 – 9/27

PRODUCTION: 336 Cases

BOTTLE AGING: 3-1/2 years

WINEMAKER: Valeta Rodgers