

2017 Berserkers 10th Anniversary Pinot Noir

Harvest dates: 9-2 through 10-4-17
Fermentation: 25% whole cluster, 75% destemmed
Aging: 16 months in 100% used French oak
Bottling date: 3-8-19
Alcohol: 14.2%
95 cases produced

This California Pinot Noir is comprised of all the excellent sites Sandler works with, ranging from Bien Nacido in the Santa Maria Valley, through Monterey County with Boer, Peterson and Cortada Alta, and up north to Madzia's Vineyard in the Bennett Valley.

2017 was heading toward a cooler, later vintage, with ideal growing conditions throughout the year, when suddenly we were hit with two giant heat waves at the end of August. All of our Pinot made it through the hot weather with no issues, but the harvest dates were pushed up two to four weeks. If there are vintages in recent memory that compare with 2017, it would be 2004 as it relates to weather, and 2008 for wine quality.