

BIG BASIN

VINEYARDS

PROFILE

The mission at Big Basin is to create wines that show their Santa Cruz Mountains roots. With cool-climate, ocean-influenced, mountain vineyards throughout the AVA, owner and winemaker Bradley Brown strives to showcase location and terroir, forgoing manipulation and intervention whenever possible. The steep hillsides, cooling ocean breezes, fog, and mountain soils of their vineyard locations promote the development of deep color and complex flavors. By keeping the yields very low and harvesting small sections of the vineyard at perfect ripeness, Big Basin strives to achieve the most important part of winemaking – great fruit. The winemaking then becomes the art of gently extracting what the fruit has to offer, utilizing a minimalist approach in the cellar, with hand sorting, gentle pressing, the use of ambient yeasts, and indigenous malolactic fermentation.

The first of the two vineyard sources for this wine is one of our favorites - Coastview Vineyard high atop the Gabilan Mountains at 2400 feet and planted in decomposed granite. The second is the Olson Vineyard located just a few miles from the center of Monterey Bay and is planted in ancient sand dunes. The heavy fog typical at this vineyard slows down the ripening making this one of the latest Pinot picks every year.



SPECIFICATIONS

Wine: Monterey County Pinot Noir

Varietals: 100% Pinot Noir

Appellation: Monterey County AVA

Vineyard Location: Olson Vineyard & Coastgrade Vineyard

Soil: Olson – Sandy loam, Coastgrade – Limestone

Vineyard Age: Average 15 years

Agricultural Method: Sustainable

Harvest: Manual, August 29-September 17, 2014

Vinification: Whole berry with 85% whole cluster, cold soak, hand punch downs, indigenous yeasts, sur lees aging. Barrel aged 11 months in French oak barrels. Bottled August 2015

Alcohol: 13%

“Big Basin’s mission is to handcraft wines revealing the complex nuances of the ocean-influenced mountain vineyards that inspire them.”



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