

Occidental

Occidental Freestone-Occidental Pinot Noir is an elegant and expressive Pinot Noir, crafted by Occidental , the renowned project of Steve Kistler, showcasing the terroir of the Sonoma Coast with vibrant red fruit, refined tannins, and a lingering mineral finish.

OCCIDENTAL



Alcohol :14,10 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Freestone Occidental Pinot Noir 2024

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

The **Freestone-Occidental Pinot Noir** is sourced from Occidental's **estate vineyards** located in the cool-climate region of **Freestone**, on the **Sonoma Coast**. These vineyards sit at an elevation of 400–800 feet, benefiting from **morning fog** and **cool breezes** from the Pacific Ocean, which create an ideal environment for Pinot Noir.

The region's **Goldridge sandy loam soils**, with their excellent drainage and low fertility, encourage deep root growth, producing grapes of exceptional concentration and aromatic complexity. The cool growing season allows for a slow ripening process, resulting in wines with vibrant acidity, balanced alcohol, and fine-grained tannins.

Winemaking

This vintage was marked by exceptional growing conditions, with a cool and even season that preserved the vibrant character of the fruit. The grapes were hand-harvested at night to retain freshness and brought to the winery for meticulous sorting.

The fermentation process relied entirely on **native yeasts**, a hallmark of Occidental's minimal intervention philosophy, ensuring that the true character of the fruit shines. The wine underwent **gentle punchdowns** during fermentation to extract color and tannins while preserving the delicate aromatics. It was aged for **11 months in French oak barrels**, with a modest proportion of new oak, emphasizing the wine's purity and balance.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Medium ruby with a bright, translucent core.
- **Aroma**: Intense and vibrant notes of **red cherry**, **raspberry**, and **cranberry**, with hints of **rose petal**, **spice**, and a touch of forest floor.
- **Palate**: Silky and fresh, with flavors of ripe red fruits layered with **savory undertones** and a subtle minerality. The fine-grained tannins and racy acidity provide structure and elegance, leading to a long, complex finish.

OCCIDENTAL

Freestone Occidental Pinot Noir 2024

Did You Know?

Steve Kistler, the founder of Occidental, is a legendary figure in California winemaking, known for his pioneering work with Pinot Noir. His dedication to small-lot, site-specific winemaking has elevated Occidental as a benchmark producer on the Sonoma Coast.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Duck Breast with Cherry Reduction**: Enhances the wine's red fruit profile and savory elements.
- **Wild Mushroom Risotto**: Complements the earthy and mineral tones.
- **Seared Salmon with Herb Butter**: Matches the wine's freshness and texture.
- **Soft, Creamy Brie Cheese**: Balances the acidity and enhances the silky texture.



Wine Spectator (WS) : 95 Points (2023)

A tightly focused beam of bitter cherry, damson plum and raspberry coulis streams through, with mouthwatering cut in the form of ocean breeze minerality that runs from start to finish. Iris and rose hip notes fill in the background as the long, piercing finish shows a remarkably pure and unadorned feel. A high-definition Pinot. Drink now through 2035. (JM)



Robert Parker (RP) : 98 Points (2021)

The 2021 Pinot Noir Freestone-Occidental is incredibly expressive and detailed! Its aromas open slowly from blueberry, rhubarb and cranberry to tones of bitter orange, amaro, mossy bark and lavender, continuing to reveal new accents with each return to the glass. Light-bodied, it floods the mouth with fragrant, detailed fruit supported by chalky tannins and focused, shimmery acidity that calls you in for another sip. It has a haunting finish loaded with spicy layers, and it's very difficult to put this delicious wine down. Drink it now for its transparency and perfume, or allow it to develop savory complexity in bottle over the next decade.



Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 95 Points (2021)

The 2021 Pinot Noir Freestone-Occidental is outrageously beautiful. Rich, heady and explosive, the 2021 is captivating right out of the gate. Inky dark red fruit, blood orange, game, spice, cedar, pipe tobacco, pomegranate and exotic flowers build as this, dense, potent Pinot shows off its tremendous resonance and textural depth. Wow!