An error has occurred while processing PictureBox 'pictureBoxHeader':
Could not create an image with the data read from https://cache1.voyageursduvin.com/producers/Calera-banner.webp. Exception message: Parameter is not valid.
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Calera

The Calera De Villiers Vineyard Pinot Noir is a luxurious and dark-fruited expression of Pinot Noir from the cool, high-altitude vineyards of Mt. Harlan. With concentrated flavors, velvety tannins, and a long, complex finish, this wine captures the essence of this exceptional terroir.

CALERA



Alcohol :14,50 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

De Villiers Vineyard Pinot Noir 2019

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

The **De Villiers Vineyard** is located in the **Mt. Harlan** appellation, situated in the **Gabilan Mountains** about 40 kilometers east of Monterey Bay. At an elevation of **670 meters** (2,200 feet), these vineyards are among the highest and coolest in California, providing ideal growing conditions for Pinot Noir. The vineyard's **limestone soils** contribute to the wine's distinct mineral profile and help maintain freshness and structure in the finished wine.

The **growing season** began with very little winter rainfall, followed by moderate spring temperatures, leading to a well-timed budbreak and a mild growing season. While the weather was favorable, yields were significantly lower than usual, resulting in a late harvest and producing wines with **exceptional depth** and concentration. The cool conditions also preserved the natural acidity, enhancing the wine's **balance and elegance**.

Winemaking

The **De Villiers Vineyard Pinot Noir** is made from **100% Pinot Noir** grapes, fermented using **100% whole clusters** with **indigenous yeasts** to develop complexity. The wine was aged for **18 months in French oak barrels**, with 30% new oak to impart structure and 70% neutral barrels to allow the fruit to shine.

This careful winemaking process resulted in a wine with velvety tannins, layered fruit, and subtle spice. The influence of the oak adds complexity without overshadowing the purity of the fruit, making for an elegant and age-worthy Pinot Noir.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Deep ruby with dark, rich hues.
- **Aroma**: The nose opens with aromas of **blackberry**, **briar patch**, soft **leather**, and a hint of **allspice**.
- **Palate**: On the palate, flavors of **blueberry** and **black raspberry** dominate, framed by **velvety tannins**. Notes of **nutmeg** and **cracked pepper** emerge on the long, complex finish, adding depth and refinement.

CALERA

De Villiers Vineyard Pinot Noir 2019

Did you know?

The **De Villiers Vineyard** is part of the **Mt. Harlan Vineyards**, which were planted by **Josh Jensen**, founder of Calera, in the mid-1990s. Jensen specifically chose these vineyards for their **limestone-rich soils**, similar to the famous vineyards of Burgundy, which he believed would produce world-class Pinot Noir.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Braised Short Ribs**: The dark fruit and spice in the wine complement the rich, savory flavors of the braised beef, while the tannins provide structure to balance the dish's richness.
- **Duck Breast with Blackberry Sauce**: The wine's blackberry and spice notes echo the flavors in the sauce, creating a harmonious pairing that enhances both the duck and the wine.
- **Wild Mushroom Risotto**: The earthy flavors of the mushrooms pair beautifully with the wine's complex fruit and spice profile, while the wine's acidity adds freshness to the creamy risotto.
- **Aged Gouda**: The rich, nutty flavors of aged Gouda are a perfect match for the wine's dark fruit and peppery finish.

94 vinous

Vinous (Antonio Galloni) (VN) : 94 Points (2018)

The 2018 Pinot Noir de Villiers Vineyard shows the natural intensity of the year in its powerful, broad personality. Dark blue/purplish fruit, gravel, incense, tobacco and mocha all flesh out in a Pinot that marries textural richness with plenty of grip and vertical lift.

93 WineEnthusiast

Wine Enthusiast (WE) : 93 Points (2018)

Subdued and smooth lines of black cherry and boysenberry are mixed with cocoa and light herb on the nose of this bottling. Roasted berry and slight game flavors show on the palate, which is wrapped in a rich mouthfeel.

95 JEB DUNNUCK

Jeb Dunnuck (JD) : 95 Points (2017)

Deeper ruby, the 2017 Pinot Noir De Villiers Vineyard reveals more black raspberry, sassafras, tea, and spicy notes. It's medium-bodied, with a juicy, elegant style and a great finish.