Kosta Browne

A quintessential Russian River Pinot Noir, offering precision, generosity, and depth, framed by the hallmark fog and vibrant fruit of this renowned AVA.

KOSTA BROWNE

Alcohol :14,10 %

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir

Russian River Valley Pinot Noir 2021

California, USA

Region and Vineyards

The **Russian River Valley AVA** in Sonoma County is celebrated for its unique microclimate, where **cool fog rolls inland from the Pacific via the Russian River corridor**. These diurnal shifts slow grape ripening, encouraging the development of fine aromatics and nuanced flavor profiles, essential to high-quality Pinot Noir.

The 2021 vintage blends fruit from **eight standout vineyards**, including the estate-owned Bootlegger's Hill and single-vineyard designates like Zio Tony Ranch and Keefer Ranch. Soils are predominantly **Goldridge loam**, a sandy, well-drained mix of volcanic ash and clay, fostering deep-rooted vines and balanced vine vigor. The use of multiple clones (including Pommard, Swan, Calera, Dijon 115, 667, and 777) adds complexity and aromatic lift to this cuvée.

Winemaking

Vinification showcases Kosta Browne's thoughtful, detail-oriented style. Grapes were **fermented primarily in stainless steel (77%)**, preserving fruit purity, with **13% in wooden vats** and **10% in concrete tanks** to build texture and complexity. A small inclusion of **2% whole cluster** brings aromatic freshness and structural nuance.

The wine was aged for **15 months**, with **34% in new French oak barrels** and **14% in large-format wood casks**, ensuring integration of oak without overpowering the fruit. The final wine displays **14.1% ABV**, a pH of **3.59**, and total acidity at **5.6 g/L**, offering a finely tuned balance of richness and energy.

Tasting Notes

- **Color**: Medium ruby with youthful clarity and vibrancy.
- **Aroma**: Captivating notes of blackberry, ripe red cherry, and raspberry leap from the glass, layered with subtle spice and floral hints.
- **Palate**: Silky and polished, with supple red fruit, gentle tension, and a remarkably persistent finish. Harmonious integration of oak and fruit supports its graceful texture and layered depth.

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Did you know?

The **2021 harvest in the Russian River Valley started a full week later and ended a week earlier** than in 2020 - an unusual pattern that contributed to concentrated flavors and naturally balanced wines, thanks to consistent ripening and ideal harvest conditions.

Wine Pairing Ideas

- **Pan-seared duck breast with pomegranate glaze** – mirrors the wine's ripe cherry and berry profile, while the acidity balances the richness of the dish.
- **Grilled salmon with wild herbs** – a classic pairing that resonates with the wine's silky texture and vibrant red fruit.
- **Roasted beet and goat cheese salad** – complements the earthy-sweet elements in both the wine and the dish.
- **Herb-crusted pork tenderloin** – savory and aromatic, pairing beautifully with the wine's spice and red berry tones.

Robert Parker (RP) : 94 Points (2021)

The 2021 Pinot Noir Russian River Valley was matured for 15 months in 34% new oak. It has a medium ruby color and generous aromatic layers of lavender, licorice, eucalyptus and forest floor with a core of dark fruit. The medium-bodied palate is powerful, its concentrated fruit complemented by well-integrated oak spice. It has abundant, grainy tannins, bursts of mouthwatering acidity and a very long, layered finish. Offer it another 2-3 years in bottle to unwind. (EB)

Decanter (DCT) : 94 Points (2021)

Kosta Browne's 2021 Appellation Series Russian River Pinot Noir packs quite a juicy, exquisite wine sourced from a panoply of incredible sites, including Bootlegger's Hill, Giusti Ranch, Keefer Ranch, Winner's Circle, Zio Tony Ranch, Moonshine Ranch, Jenkins, and Sundawg Ridge, mostly all imbued with the AVA's famous Goldridge loam soils. Fermentation was in a mix of stainless steel, wood, and concrete, with 2% whole cluster, aged 15 months in 34% new French oak and some large wood casks. Ripe and richly scented with strawberry, rhubarb, and dusty minerals. Medium-bodied with lush, ripe black cherry and raspberry fruits, velvety tannins, and tangy blood orange acidity with sweet baking spices layered into the balanced finish. (JC)

James Suckling (JS) : 94 Points (2021)

Aromatic with ripe fruits and black fruits as well as strawberries with some black tobacco and tea leaf. Full -bodied with a solid core of fruit. Dark chocolate and bark with mushroom undertones to the fruit at the finish. Tangy and zesty at the end. Why wait?