



# METZ ROAD

*Pinot Noir* | vintage 2018 | *Riverview Vineyard*

ESTATE GROWN • MONTEREY

*We specialize in small-lot, single-vineyard Pinot Noirs and Chardonnays from our estate Riverview Vineyard. Set along the eastern benchlands of the Salinas Valley, this cold-climate site owes its vinous personality to decomposed granite soils, morning fog and strong winds off Monterey Bay some 40 miles to the north. These unique conditions help distinguish our wines from their brethren in the Santa Lucia Highlands directly across the valley. To preserve the intrinsic character of the Riverview Vineyard, we use sustainable farming practices and innovative winemaking techniques including on-site fermentations with wild yeast.*

**VINEYARD:** Our estate Riverview Vineyard is a 340-acre, cold-climate (Region 1), sustainably farmed, benchland property that overlooks the Salinas River. It is situated on the east side of the Salinas Valley just below the Pinnacles National Park. This property features granitic soils, great exposure and little protection from the strong winds that scrub the valley every afternoon. It is planted to an assortment of varieties, clones and rootstocks specifically matched to the various micro-climates, soils and aspects of the terrain. The namesake Metz Road runs alongside the property.

**WINEMAKING:** The grapes were picked in the early morning hours, brought to the winery and carefully destemmed to preserve the whole berries. Fermentation was done in small, open-top tanks with punch-downs three times a day to gently extract color and tannins. A portion of the must was un-inoculated so the native vineyard microflora could initiate fermentation. Other lots were inoculated with various isolated vineyard non-saccharomyces yeasts as well as select Burgundian strains. After fermentation, the wine was pressed into a stainless-steel tank for settling, then racked to 100% French oak barrels (37% new) for 12 months. The final blend was a selection of only our top barrels.

**TASTING NOTES:** The Riverview Vineyard has an unmistakable signature, an aromatic and textural thread that runs through all our wines. Our 2018 Pinot Noir is defined by its pure fruit and impeccable balance. The nose includes notes of Bing cherry, cranberry, pomegranate and currants with a twist of vanilla spice and warm oak underneath. The palate is clean, plush, and structured with ample weight and a blast of bright red fruit. The finish is silky and elegant.

Casey DiCesare, Winemaker

VINEYARD	Riverview Vineyard
CLONE	115, Pommard, 777, 667
HARVEST DATE	Sept 7-15, 2018
AGING	12 months in 100% French oak (37% new)
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.65
TA	5.1 g/L
PRODUCTION	1,250 six-bottle cases

