



## 2018 Chalone Vineyard Pinot Noir



APPELLATION  
Chalone

BLEND  
100% Pinot Noir

OAK  
35% New French Oak  
16 months in French Oak

ALCOHOL: 13.5%  
TA: 6.3 g/L  
pH: 3.45  
RS: Dry  
CASES: 161

### GROW

Chalone Vineyard is located on the west-side of Pinnacles National Park, in Central California. The vineyard was originally planted in the 1900's, but the block we get was planted later on in the century. The Vista 6-Block is at about 1,200' elevation, plus or minus 100' due to the rolling hills throughout the block. We harvest only 13 rows of the 667-clone of Pinot Noir. The soil composition is unique to the Chalone area and is comprised of a high amount of limestone.

### MAKE

The grapes were gently hand-harvested after midnight to ensure cold fruit arrives at the winery. The grapes were hand sorted before being slowly destemmed into an open top tank. The skins were held in contact with the wine for 15 days before being drained to 100% French Oak Barrels. The wine was raked once in the spring and aged over 16 months before being bottled. The bottles aged undisturbed for a year before release.

### TASTE

The Chalone Pinot Noir is a dark shade of magenta, partly due to the clone 667, and partly due to the elevation, and dry conditions of Chalone Vineyard. Aromatics of plums, raspberries, and rose petals are vibrant, with nuances of candied spices in the background. The wine enters smooth and delicate, with a great mid-palate structure of fine tannins. The wine finishes balanced with flavors of ripe cherries and baked blueberries lasting for seemingly an eternity.

### POINTS OF DISTINCTION

- Historical California Vineyard, situated at an arid, high-elevation site, unlike most Pinot Noir vineyards.
- Pinot Noir from a unique location that reveals different qualities of the variety; different mouth structure and flavor profiles.



"Few winemakers have had the opportunity to work with the fruit from Chalone. Even fewer have had the honor of labeling their wine "Chalone Vineyard." The vineyard is a stark contrast to the fog-laden pinot noir vineyards of Sonoma County. Arid and rocky, the vineyard produces a different flavor profile than any other pinot noir that I've worked with before." WINEMAKER Brandon Lapidés