Bloom’s Field

Alongside Memorious downslope, Bloom’s Field spans the southwest-facing hillside that delineates the windward edge of our domaine. The Monterey Shale bedrock of Memorious is prevalent here, too, however the clay top soils of Bloom’s Field are lighter in color and texture, particularly as the vineyard climbs the slope. Here, our heritage selections of Pinot Noir - Calera, Swan, and Mount Eden - are planted in alternating rows, providing an elucidating way to observe communication across a genetically diverse vineyard.

From first pour, this dark, glossy pinot noir’s complex aromas suggest earth and stone; but soon powerful high tones of fresh and dried flowers appear, merging with notes of bramble and pink peppercorn. Eventually, the savory aromas give way to an emergence of dark, ripe cherries. When sipped, the wine expansively fills the mouth, viscously coating it with an array of red plum, cherry, and cranberry flavors. Dense, lush, and luxuriant, its tannins and acidity are seamlessly integrated, giving the impression of a fully formed, complete wine. After the wine is swallowed, a sprinkling of fine tannins remain on the tongue carrying the flavor of pure red fruit deep into the finish.
La Côte

VINCENTE  2019

ALC/VOL  13.4%

PRODUCTION  365 Cases

VITICULTURE  Organic

VINIFICATION  Whole cluster

VESSEL  Open concrete tank

FERMENTATION  Indigenous fermentation

ÉLEVAGE  14 Months in 20% new / Ermitage french oak

VINEYARD

La Côte blankets a steep southeast-facing hillside on the leeward slope of our domaine. Unimpeded by the inexorable winds that confront Bloom’s Field and Memorious to the west, la Côte enjoys more optimal pollination and less shatter. The vineyard possesses the most heterogeneous soils of our estate: its bedrock varies from Monterey Shale to Diatomaceous Earth to alluvium, and the associated soils range from shallow and rocky - with a plethora of broken stones - to rich and homogenous downslope.

TASTING NOTE

The 2019 La Côte’s slightly brighter color presages the vivid red fruit in its explosive nose. After about thirty minutes of aeration, powerfully high-toned aromas rise from the glass, evocative of cherries, strawberries, and raspberries plucked at peak ripeness. This core of fruit is wrapped in an array of exotic suggestions, from sandalwood, spices and flowers to milk chocolate and musk. On the palate, the 2019 La Côte is surprisingly accessible for a wine so coiled and destined for a long, graceful life. Its pleasingly supple tannins are so polished and fine that they only emerge long after each sip is swallowed, sustaining the resonance of those radiant red fruit flavors.
One of the defining elements of the western edge of the Santa Rita Hills is the geology and topography of the land. In fact, this is exactly what drew us to this small corner of the appellation, where giant formations of ancient diatomaceous shale beds rise to a thousand feet over the Santa Ynez River. Here, we knew the vineyards would take years to become established, working relentlessly to drive their roots into the bedrock searching for small deposits of water and nutrients. These sedimentary soils, that over 20 million years have slowly decomposed and fractured, today offer exceptional terroirs for the cultivation of Pinot Noir. This geological wonder, combined with the marine chilled climate, is what makes Domaine de la Côte so incredibly unique and special.

Deep ruby in color, the 2019 DDLC is a rich, joyous, and crowd-pleasing wine that interweaves contrasting qualities to achieve sneaky complexity. While its palate revels in ripe, juicy, soothing fruit, the wine is anything but shapeless. Rather it holds an intricate structure that juxtaposes dense layers of soft, thick tannins with undeniably pulsating, acid-driven energy. Aromatically, the wine exults in ripe, sun-drenched fruit that introduces ebullient tropical notes to classic pinot noir flavors of red and black berries.