

2016 Bennett Valley
Cushing's Block Pinot Noir

The 2016 Cushing's Block Pinot Noir from Barbed Oak Vineyard in Bennett Valley once again shines. Our longer hang time at this early-ripening site led to a more balanced and complex wine.

This was the first vintage that we received Pommard clone Pinot Noir from the Barbed Oak vineyard in addition to the Calera and Swan clones used in years' past. Pommard's elegance and grace creates a fitting counterpoint to the Calera and Swan clones' darkness and depth. The small, intense clusters grown in this vintage provide seductive density that the initiated have come to expect from Cushing's Block Pinot Noir.

2016 is considered a particularly good vintage. It was the last vintage of the three year drought and Cushing's Block was our first vineyard to wake from winter slumber, in the second week of March. This was almost two weeks later than 2015. Our 8-acre Bennet Valley block is really speaking in this wine. The nose takes on the atmosphere of a bucolic summertime pasture. Think hay bales and warm straw, dry dirt road, and sweet wild herbs. Aromas of sugarplums, grenadine, and raspberry liqueur shake things up with a confectionary sweetness. There is amazing depth in this Pinot. It drinks young and rich, with whole-cluster spice, cacao nib, and cherry leather.

Cellar Notes:

Percentage New Oak	Composition
30%	100% Pinot noir
Barrel Aging	Alcohol
18 months	14.3%
Bottling Date	Production
March 12th, 2018	337 cases

~20% Whole Cluster · Native Ferment/Native ML

