

2019 Mindego Ridge Vineyard Pinot Noir

Mindego Ridge Vineyard is located at the western end of Alpine Rd. near the town of La Honda. It is a perfectly exposed south facing hillside in a very cool spot. The clay loam over shale soils produce wines of great intensity. This is one of the more exciting new plantings in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

“The 2019 Pinot Noir Mindego Ridge Vineyard captures all the personality of this site. Deceptively weightless in feel, the 2019 builds beautifully in the glass, showing a beguiling mix of translucent energy and structure. Sweet, dried cherry, mint, crushed rocks, rose petals and dried herbs are all beautifully laced together. This is made in an especially savory and mineral style, while the fruit is more pushed into the background.”

– Antonio Galloni, Vinous. 94 points.

Member Price: \$61.20

Retail Price: \$72

2019 Walker’s Nebbiolo

We farm two Nebbiolo at two dramatically different sites. Gist Ranch Estate is just over an acre situated on heavily fractured Vacqueros Sandstone. High in elevation and mostly above the fog, this site consistently ripens this fickle variety and is the backbone our Nebbiolo wines. Our Winery Estate Nebbiolo is sourced from a small 0.3 acre hillside perched just above the Rapley Trail Vineyard.

Our 2019 Nebbiolo does a really great job of balancing its richness and fruit character with soft but very dense tannins, bright acidity, and pretty, high-toned aromatics. Crushed cherry and strawberry jam lead into aromas of rosehips, hibiscus tea and alpine herbs.

Member Price: \$55.25

Retail Price: \$65

2018 Gist Ranch Estate Cabernet Franc

The heavily fractured, Vaqueros Sandstone soils and unique mountain micro-climate produce singular, deeply concentrated wines that demonstrate the power and elegance of the Santa Cruz Mountains appellation.

“There’s a focused line of blackberry to the core of the nose of this bottling, as well as warmer caramel and brown-spice elements, with black peppercorn on the edges. There’s intense wood spice to the palate, with cracked pepper and herb lifting the core berry fruit.

– Matt Kettman, Wine Enthusiast. 92 points.

Member Price: \$55.25

Retail Price: \$65

2019 Vintage

The 2019 vintage will go down as a classic year in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Some unsettled weather in the spring resulted in poor flowering, lower yields in some blocks. The summer was warm, but not oppressively so—the lack of extreme heat events was a welcome change. Harvest began in mid-September, finishing up in mid to late October - relatively late compared to the recent string of early harvests. The wines are concentrated with a fine balance of structure and fruit intensity. Site expression seems amplified; low yields and moderate temperatures often lead to some of our most singular and terroir driven wines.

2018 Vintage

2018 was another dry, but not particularly warm winter. This changes in early February. A system of high pressure brought daytime temperatures into the 70s, warming the dry soil and initiating bud break on the early side in some of our vineyard sites. In March an arctic cold front settled in and brought nighttime temperatures down to freezing, which risked frost damage to the new shoot growth.

Summer was mostly mild, leading to a slightly later harvest than other recent vintages. These wines are poised and complex with depth and structure. Yields were low due to the early spring, but this concentrated the wines, which leads us to believe that they have a long.

2018 Gist Ranch Estate ‘Apex’

The heavily fractured, Vaqueros Sandstone soils and unique mountain micro-climate produce singular, deeply concentrated wines that demonstrate the power and elegance of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

"The 2018 Apex, Lexington's Cabernet Sauvignon-based blend, is terrific. Bold and punchy, the 2018 offers an appealing combination of luscious, forward fruit and mountain structure. A burst of dark red cherry, plum, spice, new leather, licorice, mocha and dried herbs gives the 2018 a real sense of energy that is quite appealing. Give this a year or two to soften. One of the best wines yet here. There is less opulence than in the past. "

– Antonio Galloni, Vinous. 94 points.

Member Price: \$85 Retail Price: \$100

2017 Will’s Cabin Vineyard Pinot Noir

The north-west facing ridge is heavily fractured Vacqueros sandstone with steep slopes and awesome exposure. A mere 14 miles separates the vineyard and ocean, though it often basks in morning sun as it sits above the morning fog. This is an earlier ripening vineyard that produces wines that are seriously structured with a wild, mountain character that continues to impress us.

"Leather, dried strawberry and peppercorn lead into a nose loaded with chaparral spice of light thyme and sage on this vineyard designate. It's a bit shy on the palate at first, and then light cranberry and raspberry flavors emerge against the crushed stone and light red-flower flavors."

– Matt Kettman, Wine Enthusiast. 93 points.

Member Price: \$61.20 Retail Price: \$72

2016 Gist Ranch Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

The heavily fractured, Vaqueros Sandstone soils and unique mountain micro-climate produce singular, deeply concentrated wines that demonstrate the power and elegance of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

"Dried cedar, light cola, crushed corks, wild-fennel and dark-berry aromas show on the nose of this bottling. The palate's woody frame is also bold, offering mahogany spice against sandy tannins, which wrap around the dark-fruit flavors."

– Matt Kettman, Wine Enthusiast. 91 points.

Member Price: \$55.25 Retail Price: \$65

2017 Vintage

Record setting rains replenished our thirsty soils and gave our old vines a much-needed reprieve from four drought stressed seasons. A torrid heat spike over the Labor Day started the growing season with a bang and had us off and running at sprinter’s pace. The weather following was mild and allowed for the latest harvest we have seen in some time. It will go down as a vintage with good yields and potentially great quality.

2016 Vintage

The 2016 Vintage was another drought year, with early bud-break, bloom and veraison. Poor weather during the early bloom caused shatter and millerandage. Vine stress became an issue late in the year with many of our dry farmed vines showing water and nutrient stress for the first time. The resulting wines are bright and energetic with mid-weight personalities. They are profoundly aromatic and balanced wines that are site expressive and pure.

