



CALERA

1997

MÉLANGE PINOT NOIR

MT. HARLAN

Calera's Mt. Harlan Vineyards are located in the Gavilan Mountains 25 miles east of the Monterey Bay. The site was chosen for its limestone soils and ideal climate. At an average elevation of 2,200 feet it is among the highest and coolest vineyard sites in California.

Winemakers Notes

The 1997 Mélangé Pinot Noir is a charming wine that appeals to all the senses. It is a blend of barrels from the Mills, Selleck and Jensen Vineyards that were not used in our 1997 single vineyard bottlings of these wines. The Mélangé shows forward aromas of sweet black cherry and spice. This substantial wine is lively on the palate, with a complex interweaving of classic Pinot Noir flavors.

Vineyard Details

72 % Mills Vineyard – Mt. Harlan
22% Jensen Vineyard – Mt. Harlan
6% Selleck Vineyard – Mt. Harlan

Wine Analysis

Total Acidity: 6.6 g/l
Final pH: 3.5
Residual sugar: 0.03%
Malolactic: 100%
Alcohol: 13.9%

Vintage and Winemaking Detail

A mild spring resulted in abundant fruit set on Mt. Harlan in 1997. Warm summer days and cool nights during the growing season gave optimum conditions for flavor development, and with terrific fall weather we were able to leave the grapes on the vine until they reached perfect ripeness in late September and early October. The grapes were hand harvested, and then whole cluster fermented with indigenous yeast in small open top fermenters. The wines were pressed after 14 days and racked by gravity to barrels following overnight settling. Aged without racking in Francois Freres barrels, 30% new, for sixteen months, the lots were combined prior to bottling and the wine was bottled unfiltered.