



---

**BENEVOLENT DICTATOR**  
RUSSIAN RIVER PINOT NOIR  
2019

---

*What do you call a wine with a powerful, authoritative presence that's also irresistibly likeable and food-friendly—bold, yet balanced, firm, yet kind? You call it Benevolent Dictator, of course.*

---



**2019 VINTAGE**

The 2019 growing season in Northern California was what many would consider a near-perfect or “classic” vintage. The vines soaked up every inch of the extremely heavy rainfall we received in March and April. Robust cover crops flourished between the vineyard rows and enriched the soil with plenty of nutrients. Late rains in May, followed by summer heat, caused the canopies to push heavily in June and July. Experienced hands in the vineyard rallied to manage their vigorous growth. We saw only a few heat spikes throughout the warm summer months, giving us extended hang time on the vine. The harvest provided grapes with great color, balanced structure and brilliant acidity.

**TASTING NOTES**

Supremely expressive aromatics emanate from the glass with plenty of bold black cherry, ripe red fruit, cinnamon, sandalwood, violet and black tea. Lush and seductive on entry, the first sip delivers a complex medley of wild strawberry, muddled ripe Bing cherries, roasted figs, plum, black licorice, rose petal, cedar and sweet vanilla. Classic Russian River Pinot Noir elements of cola and allspice harmonize with inviting and lush ripe red and black fruit. Full and round in texture with silky and polished tannins. An extremely approachable, thought-provoking wine with a long and dreamlike finish.

**Vintage:** 2019

**Appellation:** 100% Russian River

**Varietal:** 100% Pinot Noir, 50% clone 667 and 50% clone 777

**Cooperage:** 100% French oak, 50% new, 50% 2-year French oak

**Alcohol:** 14.7%

**Production:** 465 cases