

WINE IS A JOURNEY NOT A DESTINATION

*Donelan*

DONELAN FAMILY WINES

## 2018 Bennett Valley *Cushing's Block Pinot Noir*

The 2018 Cushing's Block Pinot Noir from Henry David Vineyard in Bennett Valley once again shines. 2018 was a very steady vintage with mild temperatures and the first serious rainy season we had in almost a half-dozen years. All of these variables meant we were headed for a larger than normal crop and thus, we needed to lower yields in order to achieve great richness, depth, and balance in the wines. This is when relationships with growers and understanding the history of a vineyard was important for us to perform very intentional farming unique to each site. In Bennett Valley we had to have enough fruit dropped so that ripening happened before winter rains set in.

Contributing to our Cushing's Block Pinot, the Pommard clone's elegance and grace creates a fitting counterpoint to the interplay between Calera and Swan selections' darkness and depth. The Swan selection gives us aromatic lift and spice without overt ripeness. Lush aromas of ripe blackberry, kirsch, and plum sauce are intoxicating, while richness and freshness on the palate make this Bennett Valley vineyard irresistible. Although heavily influenced by concentrated dark fruit, like other wines in the Donelan portfolio there is a beautiful mix of exotic spice and spring flowers, to provide beautiful contrast and added complexity to this remarkable single-vineyard.

### *Cellar Notes:*

**Percentage New Oak**

29%

**Composition**

100% Pinot noir

**Barrel Aging**

18 months

**Alcohol**

14.3%

**Bottling Date**

March 2020

**Production**

410 cases

*~23% Whole Cluster · Native Ferment/Native ML*

