PINOT NOIR 2022

VINTAGE NOTES

2022 was a vintage of anomalies. A maximum temperature of 41.43°C was recorded in the Polo Field on the 19th July, whilst cumulative precipitation for the three summer months, June - August, was a miserly 10mm. Temperatures in September and October fell back to normal values, slowing the ripening, and rainfall remained low.

We saw no botrytis and bunches and berries for both Chardonnay and Pinot were small. The team had it easy on the sorting table, but punch downs were brutal given the high percentage of solids. Pump overs and délestage were a salve for aching harvest limbs.

Climate is delivering a crammer course. It feels like we've experienced a lifetime of meteorological possibilities since our first vintage in 2016. The memory of 2022's long hot summer will live long in the wines.

VINIFICATION

After handpicking and sorting, the fruit was gently destemmed without crushing to maintain whole berries. The grapes were then gravity-fed into open-top oak and concrete fermenters for 3 to 5 days cold soak. Temperatures were allowed to increase naturally, and the cap received just one to two punch downs per day. Some vats also received extended skin maceration. The wine was transferred to French oak barrels for MLF, battonage and 12 months ageing, before being bottled unfined and unfiltered.

THE VINEYARD

Grapes were carefully selected from across the estate. Glaciofluvial deposits of sandy gravel dominate the easterly Polo Field while loamy, carbonate rich clay of the estate's Sleipnir Block dominates to the west. Select parcels were sourced from the Blackwater estuary and the river Crouch, which have significant influence over the favourable climate for winegrowing enjoyed in the region.

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

- Barrel aged:
  100% French oak for 12 months
- pH: 3.35
- TA: 6.1 g/L
- Alcohol: 13.5%

CRITICS REVIEW

The 2022 Pinot Noir has more concentration that the previous vintage. It shows a mixture of red and black fruit and veins of blue fruit that I have not noticed in previous vintages. It's riper but still very well-defined. The palate is medium-bodied with juicy, ripe black fruit, perhaps a little more New World influenced than Burgundy. Grainy tannins are well integrated with impressive grip towards the finish, with a touch of white pepper on the aftertaste.

Neal Martin, 91 points

RELEASE DATE: AUTUMN 2024 • 42 BARRELS PRODUCED

DANBURY RIDGE
WINE ESTATE

HYDE CHASE, DANBURY, ESSEX, CM3 4LN | INFO@DANBURYRIDGE.COM | WWW.DANBURYRIDGE.COM