

# DUTTON *Goldfield*

2018

FOX DEN VINEYARD

PINOT NOIR

GREEN VALLEY OF RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

**APPELLATION**

Green Valley of  
Russian River Valley

**VINEYARD**

Fox Den Vineyard

**HARVEST DATE**

September 25, 2018

**ALCOHOL**

13.8%

**TITRATABLE ACIDITY**

6.70 gm/Lit.

**pH**

3.43

**WINEMAKING**

Open top fermentation, cold  
soak, punch down

**BARREL AGING**

Aged 17 months in  
French oak  
(55% new barrels)

**WINEMAKER**

Dan Goldfield

**CASES PRODUCED**

438

**SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE**

\$68

**THE VINEYARD**

Fox Den Vineyard is perched on top of Stoetz Ridge, at the western border of Green Valley and just above the town of Occidental. The Goldridge sandy loam soil here is extremely sandy since this ridge is old pushed-up sea bottom, which makes for low vigor vines, slow ripening, and beautifully floral and fruit driven wine. Here on the hill, it's frequently a touch warmer than the bottom of the valley, but it's still always among the last harvested and highest in natural acidity of our pinots. Dan and Steve planted the spot together in 2002, and Dan has been crafting the wine since 2004. The eight acres is split into three clones: 667 for vivid fruit, 777 for chewy tannins and 115 for brightness and floral aromatics. For the vineyard designated wine, the exact blend between them will vary each year, but the result is always a wine with sweet, lush cherry/strawberry fruit and great natural acidity. This beautiful site is the home of Ed and Sue Smith, old friends who now lovingly oversee their 8 acres of beautifully farmed fruit.

**WINEMAKING**

At Dutton-Goldfield, our pinot is hand sorted and destemmed into small open top fermenters and the must is then cold-soaked for 5 days to gently extract color, spice and fruit characters, while mitigating harsher tannins. The three blocks at Fox Den were fermented and barreled separately to optimize what we most love about each, then blended to our tastes in March of 2019. The core of the 2018 is the juicy, focused 667 clone, with the balance made up of a blend of all 3 clones. One of the pleasures of the spring blending is getting to hone barrel choices. Fox Den is all about the floral notes of Remond Trancais, but Taransaud holds down the bass tones, and Rousseau adds structure. The wine was bottled in late March 2020 after 17 months in oak.

**THE WINE**

The long 2018 season imparted a great density to our Fox Den Pinot Noir. While we usually think silk when drinking and describing the texture of this wine, this vintage ranges more to satin. In the nose, a mix of red fruits burst into the lead, with sweet raspberry and strawberry interlaced with baking spices. The mouth has a wonderful sweet/tart interplay, dancing from Bing cherry to dried cranberry to alpine strawberry, garnished by cinnamon and nutmeg. The extra bit of weight gives it an especially lengthy finish. Riff off the satiny theme with your food pairings, with dishes like duck confit, sweetbreads, pulled pork, and seared tuna. For cheese pairings, match the sweet/tart nature of the wine with a creamy goat cheese, Kaseri, or Bellwether Farm's San Andreas.

*Dutton-Goldfield Winery began in a vineyard in 1998, when longtime colleagues and friends Steve Dutton and Dan Goldfield recognized a shared vision between them — to craft wines that express the personalities of their vineyards, and which they'd enjoy drinking at their own dinner tables. Our mission is to produce world-class wines that display the brightness of fruit, complexity, structure and balance that are reflective of our cool coastal home.*