

DUTTON Goldfield

2018

VAN DER KAMP VINEYARD

PINOT NOIR

SONOMA MOUNTAIN

APPELLATION

Sonoma Mountain

VINEYARD

Van Der Kamp Vineyard

HARVEST DATE

October 1, 2018

ALCOHOL

13.9%

TITRATABLE ACIDITY

6.3 gm/Lit.

pH

3.55

WINEMAKING

Open top fermentation,
cold soak, punch down

BARREL AGING

Aged 17 months in
French oak
(50% new barrels)

WINEMAKER

Dan Goldfield

CASES PRODUCED

255

SUGGESTED RETAIL PRICE

\$68

THE VINEYARD

Our favorite vineyards are those that have that magical combination of beautiful location, caring stewards, and great stories, and Van Der Kamp passes that test with flying colors. Dan had been working with fruit from the iconic vineyard for years, so when we had the opportunity to get some for Dutton-Goldfield in 2017, we didn't hesitate. The picturesque site on a north-facing bench on the top of Sonoma Mountain sits above the frost line, and at the convergence of fog from the south and west, creating a pocket of sunshine. It's one of the oldest Pinot vineyards still in production in Sonoma County, with the original blocks planted in the early 1950s. Martin, Dixie, and Ulysses van der Kamp have a deep connection and appreciation for their homestead, and farm the 25-acre vineyard sustainably, with a philosophy that the best fertilizer for a vineyard is the shadow of the farmer. We're proud to now be among these winery relationships they cultivate, along with the grapes and other heritage crops they grow on the site.

WINEMAKING

After hand sorting and destemming into a small open top fermenter, the must is cold-soaked for 7 days in order to gently extract color, spice and fruit characters, while mitigating harsher tannins. To further this aim, no SO₂ was used at the crusher. We punch down 1 to 3 times daily, according to the stage of the fermentation; less often and shorter at later stages to avoid bitter tannin pickup. Because of the small lot size, the van der Kamp was punched down completely by hand. After initial aging in 45% new wood, we blended in the early spring to homogenize the wine and hone our barrel choices. Since this was our first year getting to know the vineyard, we went with one each of our favorite barrels, with a little extra Seguin Moreau Icone barrels for their earthy spice, complemented by Cadus, Rousseau, and Taransaud. We bottled the wine in May 2020.

THE WINE

We're loving getting to know our new addition to the DG portfolio. The earthier and more savory Sonoma Mountain grapes provide a nice counterpoint to our fruit-focused Russian River Valley bottlings. Our 2018 Van Der Kamp Pinot leads with dusky aromas of Bing cherry, plum, and dried sage, along with a perfume of dried purple flowers. With time in the glass, savory/sweet notes of rhubarb and beet join in. In the mouth, it's robust and sultry, bringing to mind the earth from which it comes. Black cherry is enveloped in spicy sandalwood and black tea, riding on a backbone of tight, fine tannins. The wound-up quality of the wine in its youth lets you know this will be a good cellar option. If you're enjoying it young, go with something with a little fat, like chicken thighs, ribeye, or a cheeseburger, or cheeses with a salty bite like Valley Ford's Estero Gold Reserve or an Asiago.

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.