**2020 Pinot Noir Sonoma Coast "Live Free or Die”**

**About the wine**

“LIVE FREE OR DIE” is a phrase best known as the New Hampshire state motto and first uttered by New Hampshire Revolutionary War hero General John Stark who wrote, “Live free or die, death is not the greatest of evils.” This commemorative wine was created by vintner, philanthropist and University of New Hampshire alum Peter T. Paul, who said, “I wanted to make a wine that would resonate with the spirit of New Hampshire.” Indeed, one can almost imagine the outline of the state on the bottle....

The core element of this Pinot Noir comes from the vineyards near Gravenstein Highway in Sonoma County, a road named after the rare Gravenstein Apple, a historic symbol of the region’s agricultural traditions. Sources include several sites across Russian River and our star in the Petaluma Gap, Terra de Promissio (TDP). For Gravenstein Highway, we always seek to achieve a balance between aromatic purity, graceful complexity, and a refreshing bright style of Pinot Noir.

**Tasting Notes**

Gravenstein Highway lifts our spirits with a brilliant, translucent scarlet color. The Russian River source provided notes of Bing cherries, lavender, roses, raspberries, black tea, and remarkably, a hint of sweet citrus on the finish. Interestingly, the wine gets more expressive and layered with time in the glass. Me-thinks that’s probably the Terra de Promissio element giving depth and focus to the wine. Effectively the job of Pinot Noir in this style is to be light without being simple.

**Technical Data**

Variety: 100% Pinot Noir

Appellation: Russian River ~80%, Petaluma Gap ~20%

Maturation: 100% French Oak, 20% new, 14 months

Bottled Date: Dec 2021

Production: 340 cases (12 x 750ml)