



Joe Czerwinski, 18 June 2021

Felton Road scarcely needs an introduction, as it has been consistently reviewed by this publication since the 1997 vintage. Suffice to say, the 2019s are another strong lineup of Pinot Noirs from this pacesetting biodynamic producer.

Block 5 Pinot Noir 2019

Rating - 94+

Drink Date – 2023-2035

Like the Block 3 bottling, the 2019 Block 5 Pinot Noir still exudes some greenish, stemmy aromas (Winemaker Blair Walter included 20% whole clusters). Those notes nicely complement hints of roses, wild thyme, black cherries and mocha. Medium to full-bodied, this is concentrated and firm, with a long, dusty finish. Sturdier and more muscular on the palate than the Block 3, it looks to be the wine most suited to extended aging in this year's releases.

Block 3 Pinot Noir 2019

Rating - 93+

Drink Date – 2021-2030

Still marked by a faint stemminess (25% whole clusters were utilized), the 2019 Block 3 Pinot Noir looks to have the fruit weight and richness to eventually absorb that element. Scents of rose hips and black tea are joined by hints of mushrooms and root vegetables to accent black cherry, plum and cola notes. It's medium to full-bodied, rich and loamy, with plush, soft tannins and a long, gently dusty finish.

Cornish Point Pinot Noir 2019

Rating - 93

Drink Date – 2021-2030

The cedar-accented 2019 Cornish Point Pinot Noir matured 13 months in 30% new French oak, and while there is a woody thumbprint on the nose, the raspberry, black cherry and cola notes bleed through, making an even larger impression. Medium to full-bodied, broad and generous on the palate, this is marked by some dusty (but ripe) tannins, adding richness to the wine's texture in the mouth and on the lingering finish.

Pinot Noir 2019

Rating - 92

Drink Date – 2021-2027

The blended wine—Felton Road's 2019 Pinot Noir—includes components from four vineyards. It ended up comprising 20% whole clusters, with 27% of the blend matured in new oak. Scents of cedar and wintergreen accent black cherries and blackberries on the nose, while the medium to full-bodied palate adds some cola-like notes. For all the "dark" flavors, it's lively and vibrant, supported by silky-textured tannins and mouthwatering acidity on the long finish.