Winemaker Theresa Heredia (pictured right) is a pioneer of cool-climate viticulture in Sonoma; she has been with the estate since 2012.



Russian River Pinot Noir 2018

Russian River Valley, California

ESTATE

For over 38 years, Gary Farrell Winery has crafted small-lot artisan wines capturing balance and stylistic elegance from some of the finest vineyard sites in the Russian River Valley. In 1985, Winemaker Gary Farrell released his 55 cases of 1982 Rochioli-Allen Pinot Noir to widespread critical acclaim. Since that release, the team at Gary Farrell Winery has consistently focused on rigorous vineyard selection, outstanding grower relationships, and superior quality fruit. For the past 8 years, the current owners have been dedicated to enhancing Gary Farrell's legacy with a single-minded focus on quality.

WINE

A beautiful expression of the varietal and of the appellation's unique terroir, this Pinot Noir blend captures the richness, purity and elegance that are Gary Farrell Winery's trademarks.

VINEYARD

Sources: Bacigalupi, Rochioli, Toboni, Nonella, Hallberg, Dutton

Farming: Sonoma County will become the nation's first 100% certified sustainable wine region; currently, 90% of Gary Farrell's grower partners are certified or pending certification through California's four accepted programs.

WINEMAKING

Harvest: Fruit is picked at slightly lower sugar levels in order to capture more varietal character, natural acidity

and site specificity Variety: 100% Pinot Noir

Aging: 10 Months, French Oak (35% new)

Alcohol: 13.9%

VINTAGE

After several years of drought, heat and early harvests, 2018 was a breath of fresh air and a return to a more normal harvest onset. The season began with a cold, wet winter, which set the pace in that it delayed vine development by 3-4 weeks. Budbreak began mid to late March, followed by a mild, sunny spring. When bloom ensued in mid to late May, the weather was just right, with very little wind and no rain to damage the delicate flowers. The nearly perfect weather throughout the summer months led to a very large, yet excellent quality crop. Despite the quantity of clusters per vine, flavor, concentration and tannin levels were quite excellent.

TASTING NOTE

"The wine lures you in to discover layers upon layers of aroma and flavor. The initial scent of juicy red fruits and floral herbs linger on the nose while subtle hints of clove, cocoa butter and creamy caramel swirl in the glass. The palate explodes with the taste of cranberry chutney, Hibiscus tea and vanilla beans with undertones of ginger snap cookies and dark cocoa nibs. The underscore of vibrant acidity and silky tannin make this wine perfect on its own or with a variety of different foods." - WINEMAKER, THERESA HEREDIA