



### **2020 Fountain Grove District Syrah, Sonoma County, Petrichor Vineyard**

Ideally the grape variety is planted in its perfect place. A place that suits that particular variety perfectly. For example, Syrah planted on top of a rocky mountain, cooled by morning fog and breezes from a valley that opens up to the ocean, and warmed by afternoon sun before the breezes pick back up again in the afternoons to cool the grapes back down again. This wine is that example.

The vineyard sites at the very top of the Fountain Grove District, on top of a rocky mountaintop overlooking Santa Rosa in Sonoma County, cooled by Russian River Valley breezes that come in like clockwork from the nearby cold Pacific Ocean.

Furthermore, Steve has consulted for this vineyard for ten years, brought in by his good friend Duncan Meyers of Arnot-Roberts, who was the founding winemaker for Petrichor. He knows the organically farmed vineyard intimately.

To capture the Syrah spice we used 100% whole clusters in the fermentation. The whole clusters also gave us plenty of structure and depth. We fermented in a small open top bin, with two punch downs per day. We gently pressed just after dryness, and aged the wine in neutral puncheons for 10 months.

The pH is 3.73 the TA is 5.5 g/L, and the alcohol is 13.5%. 205 cases produced.

The Petrichor Syrah is dense and meaty, with lots of savory bacon along with the blackberry and spice. It's a deeply colored, almost brooding Syrah, powerful, but with that Matthiasson trademark precision and elegance.

### **The Vineyard**

The Petrichor Vineyard is planted in very closely-spaced small vines, all farmed by hand, no tractors. Only 2.5 acres, you feel like you know every vine. Organic since day one, it is owned by Margaret and Jim Foley who operate their own Petrichor Vineyard wine brand. You can literally see ten miles from the vineyard across the nearby valleys towards the ocean, sometimes above the clouds, sometimes in the clouds, the sense is always that you are near the ocean but on top of the world.