2016 Sexton Road Ranch Pinot Noir

The Sexton Road Ranch Pinot Noir is the first wine Inman Family labeled as Sonoma Coast because of the vineyard's high elevation at 900 feet in the Sebastapol Hills. This area of Sonoma County can be either Russian River Valley or Sonoma Coast. Farmed by highly regarded grower Jim Pratt, Inman Family's winemaker Kathleen Inman wanted to make wine from this site for many years. In 2013, she secured the first fruit from this lovely vineyard perched above Freestone.

Pratt's Sexton Road Ranch is not far from the Klopp's Thorn Ridge Ranch, which Inman sourced from between 2006–2012. It is adjacent to Littoral's Haven and Balletto's Sexton Hill ranches. The vineyard is about 9 miles from the Pacific Ocean. It is planted on steep hillsides of Goldridge soil. With carefully selected clones of Pommard, 777, 114, and 115, this vineyard yielded a rich, seductive Pinot Noir, with dark fruits and exotic spices that speak to the classically opulent style of this region.

The luscious, dark, concentrated fruit and racy acidity combined with the generous tannins to create an age-worthy structure.

Appellation: Sonoma Coast, Sonoma County
Fruit Source: Jim Pratt's Sexton Road Ranch Vineyard

Tasting Notes
Color: Dark ruby
Aroma: Scents of black tea and dark berries are married with pleasant notes of exotic bay leaves and sage, creating a rich and concentrated bouquet in this classic Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir.
Flavor: Blackberry, black cherry, clean earth, cocoa, dried herbs, and exotic spices like cardamom and cumin. Tannins are grippy, and acidity is racy.

Winemaker Notes
The fruit was picked by hand before dawn, destemmed at first light, and fermented in a 5-ton open top, stainless steel fermenter. No water, acid, enzymes, or tannins were added.
Once fermented dry, the must was pressed in a basket press, settled overnight, and then barreled down to French oak barrels, 15% of which were new. The wine was not fined and is suitable for vegans. It was filtered using crossflow technology and bottled under Stelvin closure.

Case Production: 183