

BIRICHINO



2018 ENZ VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

Tucked away towards the back of a box canyon running perpendicular to the Cienega Valley in San Benito County, geology and tectonics profoundly inform the character of Enz. The San Andreas Fault lies roughly ½ mile to the northeast at the opening of the Lime Kiln Valley. A granite quarry sits a few hundred yards to the west. Abandoned lime kilns dot the hillsides. A large dolomite deposit is quarried four miles to the northwest. This extreme terroir accounts for the potent *Enz-ness* which infuses any wine from this vineyard. From our experience, an Enz Vineyard Mourvèdre or Enz Vineyard Pinot Noir is far more *Enz* than it is Pinot Noir or Mourvèdre. The Pinot Noir vines sit immediately behind the Mourvèdre as the slope rises to the south. If, in the Birichino Pinot Universe, Lilo is the pretty expression, Boer the generous one, Antle the savory, Enz is the most emphatically rocky. As already noted, Enz Pinot Noir sits more familiarly next to the Enz Mourvèdre than any of the other Pinot Noirs, such is the distinctiveness of site expression. Obviously differences emerge between varieties, however the scent of watermelon and the suggestion of wet river stones emerge from any wine from here. They are tannic. They can be rough in their youth. But they are always persistent, and with patience, become fantastically perfumed. Enz is farmed organically, and without irrigation.

- Alex & John

Harvest: August 25, 2018
Composition: 100% Pinot Noir
Appellation: Lime Kiln Valley
Alc: 13.0% **TA:** 5.9 g/L **pH:** 3.66
Production: 47cs

