



2013 Pinot Noir Russian River Valley



ORIGIN: This wine is inspired by our exploration into the more western reaches of the Sonoma Coast appellation. It exemplifies the fruit driven Pinot Noir and concentrated rich flavors that one sees in this region. We work with a number of different vineyards in the Russian River Valley including our own. Thale's Vineyard and a neighboring place on Westside Rd called Flax Vineyard. Also, included are, Tina Marie and Dutton's Widdoes Ranch, both in the heart of Green Valley.

VINEYARD NOTES: The 2013 vintage had ideal temperatures and growing conditions. The flavors were able to develop and show expressively. The vineyards were farmed meticulously in order to keep the vigorous canopy that develops in the famed-Goldridge Soil- balanced with the crop load on the vines. When done correctly the pure fruit and clarity of Russian River Valley vineyards shines through, as displayed in this wine. The fruit was hand-harvested on four different days: August 27th at 26.2 Brix, August 30th at 25.3 Brix, September 3rd at 25.9 Brix and September 19th at 24.9 Brix. The four distinct harvest dates indicate the individual nature of each site and what each lends to the complexity of this wine.

WINEMAKING NOTES: The fruit was picked as whole clusters and brought to the winery in half-ton macro bins. It was then hand sorted and gently destemmed into our 1 ton Super T fermenters. The skins of the fruit are punched down twice a day during fermentation to achieve maximum color and flavor extraction with minimal harsh tannin from the seeds. When primary fermentation was complete the wine was pressed from the skins into barrel. French oak from a number of different cooperages, including 25% new oak barrels, 40% one year old French oak barrels and the remaining neutral barrels, were used. The final blend was assembled prior to bottling which occurred August 8th, 2014. The wine was bottled using screw cap closures, to ensure highest quality.

TASTING NOTES: The color of this wine is a rich reddish plum. Black cherry and brambly blackberry aromas dominate the nose with a splash of tobacco and bergamot spice. A firm acidity deepens the berry flavors and mid-palate tannin while the finish is soft and creamy. The balance of this wine resonates with the long lasting finish.

This vintage produced 16 barrels, 396 (750 ml) cases.

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