

2014 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir



Harvest Notes

In many ways, the 2014 vintage is one for the record books. The third consecutive drought year, Sonoma County received less than half of its average rainfall. The very dry winter and spring allowed for very early bud break, flowering and harvest. With ideal spring weather conditions, the vines were able to complete flowering quickly, and the resulting crop was much larger than average. We received just enough rain in the spring to charge the soil with water, and cool summer weather allowed for the vines to thrive resulting in the earliest harvest on record.

Winegrower Notes

Through intensively farming each vineyard site, our intent is to maximize the character and individuality of each wine and we do so by utilizing the most progressive viticultural techniques. Harvested at night, the fruit was rigorously hand sorted prior to destemming and then berry selected before open top fermentation. This blend is a collection of heirloom clones of Pinot Noir like Calera, Swan, Pommard, Mt. Eden, and Chalone as well as newer French selections like Dijon 777 & 943.

Tasting Notes

This almost textbook vintage provided the raw materials to produce a truly outstanding Russian River Valley Pinot Noir. Aromas are clearly dominated by bright red fruit tones of Bing cherry and red raspberry, while black fruits dominate on the palette. The bright aromas expand and give way to black plum and toasted baking spices. On the palate the wine has bright acidity and firm but fine tannins that should allow for short term cellaring. As always, the wine was bottled without refining or filtration.

Vineyard Sources

Martaella, Cohn, Tilton, and Zio Tony Vineyards

Harvest Data

August 16th-September 18th | Alcohol 14.1% | pH 3.62 | TA 0.62

Fermentation

Cold soaked for 8 days, indigenous yeast fermentation lasted for more than two weeks

Cooperage

37% new French Oak

Cases Produced

2600 cases

Release Date

April 2016