

# 2013 Westside Road Neighbors Pinot Noir

#### WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Highly expressive on the nose, the 2013 Westside Road Neighbors is a knockout wine, as usual. The gamut of red fruits from cranberry, strawberry, and Montgomery cherry highlight the aromatic fireworks of this wine. The red fruits are complemented by dried citrus peel and blood orange juice. Crushed rocks and minerals permeate the aromas and flavors. The palate echoes the aromatic profile with additional elements of earthy tea and wet terra cotta. Dry, dusty tannins open with aeration and coat the entire palate, while the brilliant acidity provides a lingering finish. This wine will age effortlessly for up to a decade and possibly longer.

### THE VINEYARDS

The Pinot Noir for this blend was sourced from neighboring vineyards along Westside Road: Allen, Bacigalupi, Bucher, Rochioli Riverblock and the Williams Selyem Estate.

## HARVEST 2013

With great back-to-back vintages, 2013 was every bit as good as 2012 has proven to be. Amidst concerns about another drought year, the rain gauges filled up to about 80% of the yearly average. The growing conditions were very favorable, which resulted in a remarkably similar growing season to the exceptional 2012 vintage. The only notable difference, however, was the increase of heat units in 2013, as measured by the Growing Degree Day index. With below average rainfall for the season bud break initiated earlier than average along Westside Road. April showers helped to drive good shoot growth and set the plants up for May flowering. Excellent weather at flowering time allowed for fantastic set and a bountiful yield across all appellations and varieties. Even with an earlier start to the growing season, the grapes had the ideal amount of time on the vine to achieve full maturity without any threat of inclement weather late in the season. Wines from the 2013 vintage exhibit extremely pure and polished tannins and the acidity will provide longevity, but the supple structure also offers earlier enjoyment, as well.

#### **TECHNICAL NOTES**

Barrel Description: 61% new, 39% 1 year old

Barrel Aged: 14 months

pH: 3.48

TA: 0.68g/100ml

Alc: 13.7%

Released Spring 2015

\$69

