

2015 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Red cherry, strawberry confiture, and faded rose petal aromas seem to sing in the top registers in this alluring offering. Hints of beet root, dried herbs and wood spices offer some bass notes to complete this wonderful orchestral suite. With air, the aromas intensify with notes of Morello cherry. The palate is very dense on entry with a strong streak of minerality through to the finish. The tannins are extremely fine grained and reminiscent of Ceylon tea. The 2015 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir is a classic, and highlights the elegance and power of a truly great growing region.

THE VINEYARDS

The Pinot Noir for this blend was sourced primarily from our Drake Estate Vineyard, and the Williams Selyem Estate Vineyard.

HARVEST 2015

The 2015 vintage continues the hit parade of great quality vintages of the last four years. The season started under extreme drought conditions despite a wet early winter. January was very dry and warm and brought bud break earlier than expected. The rains returned in early February and dramatically slowed down the growth of the plants. May temperatures were some of the coldest on record and negatively impacted flowering and therefore fruit set. By the end of July, the heat returned and, coupled with limited fog intrusion, the ripening process sped along quickly. Despite an auspicious start and a dramatic finish to the season, the 2015 wines may surpass some of the great recent vintages as they are bold and yet maintain their trueness to site. With superb color, structure and acidity, the wines have staying power, but with the wonderful texture and richness that are expressed today, who can resist them now?

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 45% new, 55% 1 yr.

Barrel Aged: 11 months

pH: 3.51

TA: 0.60 g/100mL

Alc: 14.1%

Released Spring 2017

\$55

