

2011 Foss Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

A new single-vineyard designate that, since 2008, had been blended into the Eastside Road Neighbors. Aromas of black raspberry, violets, cherry cola and clove come through on the nose. A very textural wine with brooding tannins that coat your palate with notes of raspberry cobbler, sassafras, herbal spices and minerals. The great balance and juicy acidity come from three main clones: Pommard, Swan and Mt. Eden. The complexity of this wine will continue to show through as these vines become more and more mature. I plan to cellar this wine for 4-6 years before I start drinking with friends.

—Director of Winemaking Bob Cabral

THE VINEYARD

The Foss Vineyard sits above Eastside Road in the Middle Reach region of the Russian River Valley. With a fine, clay loam soil type and a temperate microclimate, this site is extremely well drained and therefore an excellent site for Pinot Noir. Planted to Pommard, Swan, Mt. Eden, and 667 clones — together they offer a rich and complex palette to draw from in blending this incredibly rich and complex wine.

HARVEST 2011

The 2011 vintage was marked by another cool year that produced wines with tremendous purity and depth. Similar in many ways to 2010, without the extremes, it had very low yields and below average cooler weather. But, the growing season in 2011 was much more consistent with gentle warming days and very cold summer nights. As a consequence, the vintage produced wines with incredible purity, remarkable acid and tannin balance, while expressing the uniqueness of each individual site and region. The signature of this vintage is one where the wines have bright fruit qualities, sound acidities and elegant tannin profiles. It is truly a vintage worth seeking.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 72% new, 28% 1 year

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.44

TA: 0.58g/100mL

Alc: 13.9%

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\$55

