



2008 VINTAGE RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

This was a year for low yields in the vineyards. During the last week of August, these low yields combined with a heat spike to give a little extra push to fast-ripening Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. By the beginning of September, harvest was in full swing. And in mid-September, most of the early-ripening varieties had been picked with ripe flavors and robust sugars. Low yields across the board contributed to intense flavors in both white and red grapes, leaving vintners pleased with overall results.

CELLAR NOTES

This single vineyard Pinot Noir is produced from grapes grown on an exceptional site located above the Atascadero/Green Valley watershed. The vineyard is located in one of the coolest parts of the Russian River Valley, and it is farmed by the Dutton brothers. Great attention to viticultural detail is the watchword here, where efforts in the vineyard combine with Goldridge soils to provide a perfect environment for Pinot Noir to achieve its maximum potential. The wine is fermented with natural yeast in small, open-top fermenters and punched down daily. It is aged in Mercurey and Alain Fouquet French oak barrels, 50 percent new. The fruit shows great depth, with complex flavors framed in a relatively high percentage of finegrained, new oak all seamlessly intertwined. The wine is bottled without filtration.

TASTING NOTES

This single vineyard designate is showing a deep, multi-layered core of complex flavors redolent of black cherry, plum, spice, vanilla and herbs. Silky tannins provide a fine framework, while balanced acidity offers excellent focus on the palate. The wine finishes long and luxuriously.

Oak : 100 % French Oak

Cases Produced: 286

Appellation: Russian River Valley

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