

PETER PAUL

— WINES —

2014 Pinot Noir Russian River Valley Gravenstein Highway

In the harvest of 2014 Pinot Noir and Chardonnay emerged in early September from our Russian River Valley vineyards. The grapes tasted so good right off the vine that it was hard not to eat too many. The Pinot had just the right amount of ripe, red fruit flavor balanced by perfect acidity. Our Chardonnay, sourced exclusively from the famous Bacigalupi Vineyard, also showed the vintage pedigree. It was intoxicating to smell the aromas of fresh, young wine as we entered the winery each time.

About this wine: The core element of this Pinot Noir is represented by grapes grown in the Anderson-Ross Vineyard located on Gravenstein Highway—midway between the towns of Sebastopol and Forestville. Gravenstein Highway is central to Peter Paul's grape universe within the Russian River Valley. All of our vineyard sources are adjacent to this 6 mile corridor running through the heart of the appellation. The core of Gravenstein Highway Pinot Noir sits on a bench rising up from Atascadero Creek—a unique topography that's often a bit cooler than the surrounding hillsides. This is an elegant, sublime style of Russian River Pinot Noir.

Fermentation was preceded by a 5-day cold soak, after which wild yeast gently began the process of transforming the juice into wine. Small, open-top fermenters were used and gentle punchdowns happened a couple times a daily. Free run wine was drained directly to barrels and kept separate from the press fraction, which was obtained with a basket press. The wine aged in Boutes French oak barrels, selected with medium-toast highlighting the prominent flavor elements in the wine. This Pinot Noir was bottled without filtration.

Tasting Notes: Highly aromatic, this vibrant wine shows red berries and rhubarb aromas overlaid on forest notes. The flavors echo the aromatic impressions with bramble and herbs ending on tart cherry flavors within an elegant mineral frame. Silky tannins pair with stylish acidity to promise early drinking satisfaction along with interesting evolution over the next 2-4 years.

Technical Data:

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Clone: Dijon 115

Oak: 100% French Oak, 25% new

Cases Produced: 619