

The Russian River Valley Original



Appellation: Russian River Valley Alcohol: 14.5% by volume pH: 3.66 Titratable Acidity: 5.6 g/L

Aged in Oak: 19% New Oak

Origin of Oak: French

Months in Barrel: 10

## 2016 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR

## In the Vineyard

The cool, foggy Russian River Valley climate allows for slow ripening and enables our grapes to develop full flavor maturation over an extended time. To create our 2016 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir, grapes were predominantly hand-harvested from the BCD Vineyard, the Heintz Vineyard and the Murray Vineyard. Each of these Russian River Valley Vineyards contributes their unique complexities to the final blend.

The BCD Vineyard consists of five distinct blocks within the vineyard with soils varying from Huichica clay loam to heavier clay being found in some of the lower lying portions of the vineyard. Located in the town of Occidental, the Heintz Vineyard is located in the Green Valley sub AVA and is planted to four distinct clones. The Swan and Pommard clones have traditionally provided a concentrated mouthfeel and earthy characteristics to the wines made from the vineyard, while the II3 and Beringer clones bring more spice and tannic intensity to the wines. The Murray Vineyard, located in the cooler Llano region of the Russian River Valley, contributes a rich, plush mouthfeel with raspberry and dark cherry characteristics. Together, these vineyards produce the backbone of our Russian River Valley.

## Conversations with the Winemaker

Crafted using traditional Burgundian techniques, the grapes were hand-sorted then fermented in small vats with all punch-downs done by hand. We aged the wine for 10 months in 60 gallon French oak barrels, 19% new oak, to create a complex, multilayered Pinot Noir.

## TASTING NOTES

A delightful ruby color in the glass, our 2016 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir offers aromas of ripe red fruits with hints of sassafras and cola. Flavors of cherry, strawberry, and a hint of black licorice mingle upon the palate, displaying balanced structure, medium body and moderate tannins. Made to be immediately enjoyable, this wine is a perfect accompaniment to wood-fired pizza or mushroom risotto.

Lean Charles Boinet

Brian Malorey

Jean-Charles Boisset Proprietor

Brian Maloney Winemaker