



LABRY PINOT NOIR

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY 2018

Vintage Notes

A 96 point vintage in the Russian River Valley that many have described as “classic” and characterized by “nearly perfect conditions.” The harvest was slightly larger than the 2017 vintage and a bit longer due to a slightly cooler than normal autumn which resulted in a later than usual harvest date. The vintage has been defined by complex and concentrated wines which our Pinot Noir typifies and is easily one of the best vintages of the decade for the Russian River Valley, if not the best.

Source

Martin Ray Vineyard, Russian River Valley AVA

Vineyard

The fruit for our 2018 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir comes from the historic Martin Ray Vineyard. It is a mere 12 acres that has been planted with 6 different clones, most notably Clone 37 (also known as the Mt. Eden clone which references another historic winery on the eastern slopes of the Santa Cruz Mountains), which Martin Ray brought from France in the 1930's. Sitting just beyond the eastern border of Green Valley on a sloping hill of enviously impressive Goldridge soil (sandy soils made up of an ancient seabed and volcanic ash deposits) and planted to notable Dijon clones such as 943, 828, 667 and 777.

Winemaking

Fermented in French oak puncheons (500L barrels), punched down by hand daily, then gently basket pressed in a JLB basket press. Native yeast used for primary and secondary fermentation while the wine sat for 20 days on it's skins. Inert racked once in its life, using all gravity flow and inert gas movements, thus no violent pumping when transferring the wine. Sterile filtered prior to bottling.

Tasting Notes

Punchy ripe cherry and brambly blackberry aromas are enhanced by nuances of sandalwood, bay leaf and warm baking spices. Cherry pie, blackberry compote, tobacco leaf and orange pekoe tea leaf, with hints of forest floor and black plum on the palate. This beautiful Russian River Pinot Noir is savory, yet luscious and juicy with a firm, silky tannin profile and plenty of backbone throughout. This wine lingers on the finish and leaves you wanting more.

Variety

100% Pinot Noir

Soil Type

Goldridge Soils

Clones

Mt. Eden Heritage Clone #37;
Dijon Clones 943, 828, 667 and 777

ABV

14.4%

Aging

Aged 11 months in 40% new,
60% once used Burgundy French oak barrels

Cooperage

Remond Allier Forest Medium Long Toast;
Cadus Center of France Slow and Deep Toast

Release Date

Spring 2020

