

2005

Russian River Valley

PINOT NOIR

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Our Russian River Valley Pinot Noir is a blend from three carefully-selected vineyards in this appellation: Leras Family Vineyards, Elsbree Vineyards, and Peters Vineyard. Each vineyard holds its own distinction; we feel they are among the best the Russian River Valley has to offer.

Leras Family Vineyards sits in the heart of the Valley off of Woolsey Road, embodying earthiness and mineral tones, the signature of Russian River Pinot. A partnership of ours for years, we feel fortunate to have such expert and reliable vineyard management in one of our key sources.

Planted on a steep knob in the town of Windsor off of Arata Lane is Elsbree Vineyards, a mix of 12 Pinot Noir clones on different rootstocks. This results in a superior field-blend of flavors—fruit with plenty of layers and superb depth.

The Peters vineyard is a 25-acre ranch located 5 miles west of the town of Sebastopol. This vineyard's designation was changed to the Russian River Valley as part of the newly defined appellation boundary. The consistency and quality of the fruit from this vineyard continues to impress.

During the fermentation and aging process, we keep the clones separated, cold-soaking the grapes two to three days before adding several different types of yeast, cultured specifically for Pinot Noir. We hand-punch to closely control the temperature, sometimes as often as five or six times a day, and age in Francois Frères barrels for 12 months before bottling.

TASTING NOTES

Medium-deep ruby color with aromas of cherries and vanilla. Flavors of bright cherry, berry, and minerals satisfy the palate. The sweet oak, solid structure, and firm tannins lead to a long and balanced finish.

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WINE PROFILE

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Harvest Dates: Sept. 7-30, 2005

Brix at Harvest: 24-26

Alcohol: 14.5%

T.A.: 0.565/100ml

pH: 3.69

Residual Sugar: Dry

Cooperage: 12 months in

Francois Frères French oak, 50% new,

50% 1 & 2-year-old

Bottled: September 8, 2006

Production: 1150 cases 750 ml

124 cases 375 ml

Papapietro Perry Winery

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