

# 2017

POMMARD CLONES

Russian River Valley PINOT NOIR

### **WINEMAKER'S NOTES**

We're still doing it! Not many California winemakers produce single-clone wines, and this one consistently shines as one of the best wines we produce.

Our Pommard Clones, which was the first clone growing in the Russian River Valley, release comes from a variety of vineyards in the Russian River Valley, including Leras Family Vineyards off Woolsey Road, Bucher Vineyards on Westside Road and Peters Vineyard just outside of Sebastopol, and they are always special. Each has the great characteristics of the Pommard Clone; deep flavors with rich mouth feel, and vibrant flavors unique to each site. While at first blending them was an experiment, we were so pleased with the results that we cherry-pick the best barrels each year from each lot and bottle them.

We have carefully refined our winemaking techniques in a way that defines our unique Pinot Noirs, separating the grapes by clone and vineyard during fermentation and aging. This gives us many more blending options. We cold soak the grapes two to three days before adding several different types of yeast, cultured specifically for Pinot Noir. During the seven to twelve days it takes to ferment, we hand-punch each fermenter, up to four times a day to ensure that the temperature doesn't get too warm. Once the juice is fermented, we press the fruit and move the wine into Francois Fréres French oak barrels, and then age for at least 11 months before bottling. Ben R. Capapieho

#### **TASTING NOTES**

As you might know, we get really excited by our blends. It's a great chance to play and craft wines with some of the best Pinot Noir vineyards out there. This 2017 Pommard is a great showcase for the quality of our vinevards. The light ruby red stunner dashes around the glass in a way that only the best Pinots can. The high-toned nose blends bright red fruits with subtle earth notes. On the palate, a vibrant line of acidity structures complex, tightly knit red fruit flavors of pomegranate, sweet cranberry and tart cherry. More intriguing sassafras and earth notes emerge as the wine opens. There is oak influence but it is tempered and well-integrated. This bottling is a bit more angular and precise than other Pommard vintages, at this stage. Compelling now, this one will only improve with another dose of time in the bottle.

#### **WINE PROFILE**

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Appellation: Russian River Valley

**Harvest Date:** September 7, 2017

Alcohol: 14.25%

**T.A.:** 5.9 g/l

pH: 3.84

RS: Dry

Cooperage: 11 months in

> Francois Frères French oak, 70% new,

30% 1-2 year-old

**Bottled:** August 8, 2018

**Production:** 551 cases / 750ml

16 cases / 1.5L

## **Papapietro Perry Winery**

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