

DONUM

The Gift of the Land

Our 1870 Pinot Noir takes its name from the stone ruins of a stagecoach stop, built in 1870, which remain in the center of our Estate today. The 2013 vintage marks the second release of this wine, which represents the best blend our Estate vineyard has to offer. The spiritual heir to our much-loved Tenth Anniversary Pinot Noir, the 1870 Pinot Noir will be released only in exceptional vintages, and 2013 certainly fits the bill.

FRUIT: 100% Donum clone from the Donum Estate vineyard

HARVEST DATE: October 4 and 7, 2013

BOTTLING DATE: February 9, 2015

CASES PRODUCED: 73 cases

NEW OAK: 100% new French Oak (Atelier, Gamba)

ALCOHOL: 14.7%

PH: 3.65

TA: 6.1 g/L

FERMENTATION & BLENDING DETAILS

The 1870 blend represents the top wine from our Estate vineyard in Carneros, so the exact blocks used in the final cuvee can vary from vintage to vintage. In 2013, our favorite four barrel blend was made from a single block, the 4-90 block which also provides the fruit for our West Slope bottling. The 1870 is not simply a copy of the West Slope, however, as we think it shows a different aspect of the estate, with great richness and incredible depth. The juice spent four weeks on the skins in tank, and was then aged in 100% new French oak for 16 months. The final blend was decided upon in January, and bottled in February, 2015.

WEATHER ATTRIBUTES

After very cool growing seasons in back to back years (2011 & 2012), the 2013 vintage felt quite warm, although it was actually close to average for Northern California. Bud break occurred very early thanks to a warm spring, leading to concerns about an extremely early harvest, but we avoided any heat spikes throughout the summer, which slowed things down in the vineyard. With all of our vineyards (and seemingly everyone else's in Sonoma and Napa) tracking around the same sugar levels, the potential for too much fruit at once made everyone nervous, but cool weather at just the right times in early and late September created the spacing we needed. The 2013 calendar year was very dry, but fortunately heavy rains in November and December of 2012 provided enough moisture in the soil and water for irrigation to last the growing season. One small rain event on September 21st and 22nd created some worries, but little rain fell and strong winds dried the vineyards out quickly. Our harvest began at our Russian River Vineyard on September 2, and wrapped up in Carneros on October 8.

2013
1870
PINOT NOIR

Brilliant ruby in color, the 1870 explodes with aromas of black berry and cherry, graphite, crème brûlée, and raspberry coulis. The palate is lush and ripe, with dark blueberry and red plum flavors joined by surprising red cherry and cranberry notes that provide lift. On the finish plush tannins carry intense cherry and savory herb flavors through the back end, leaving a lasting impression of depth and purity.

-Dan Fishman, winemaker

