

DONUM

The Gift of the Land

Our Russian River Valley Pinot Noir comes from the Winside vineyard, planted in 1997 by Anne Moller-Racke and Joe Nugent to 10 acres of Dijon 115 and 667. The natural variations in soil across the vineyard, along with the blend of clones, results in a complex wine, with richness from the 667 and elegance and finesse from the 115. Fog from the Pacific generally recedes fairly early in the day resulting in plenty of sun, but prevailing winds from the west keep this site cooler in the afternoon, allowing for extended hang time. Starting in 2012 we began to include some fruit from the Pommard block in the estate blend.

The 2014 Russian River shows dark cherry, plum and blueberry aromas straight away, with a floral, rose petal component coming through as the wine opens in the glass. The palate is lush and rich, with intense berry and fresh plum flavors framed by perfectly rounded tannins. The finish is long and intense, with a slight cranberry note emerging as the dark fruit flavors continue to linger. Though drinking well already, this wine is showing all the signs of a long future ahead of it. -Dan Fishman, winemaker

FRUIT: Pommard and Dijon 667 & 115 from the Winside Estate vineyard

NEW OAK: 55% new French Oak (Remond, Gamba, Atelier, Francois Frères)mba)

HARVEST DATE: September 6 to 11, 2014

ALCOHOL: 14.7%

BOTTLING DATE: January 22, 2016

PH: 3.61

CASES PRODUCED: 627 cases, 20 magnum cases

TA: 6.6 g/L

FERMENTATION & AGING DETAILS

The Winside vineyard was harvested the second week of September, about ten days earlier than usual, with the fruit in excellent condition and perfectly ripe. After hand-sorting and destemming, the grapes were gravity fed to tank and underwent a week long cold-soak. Fermentation was slow and drawn out, lasting nearly a month before the finished wine was pressed-off. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation in barrel, and then aged on the lees for another year. The final blend was assembled in January, 2016, and bottled later that month.

WEATHER ATTRIBUTES

The 2014 Vintage marked the third year of drought in California as a whole, although in the North Bay we were fortunate to receive heavy storms in February and March which replenished the soils and ponds. The season started early and stayed that way, with mild weather in the spring and warm (but not overly hot) weather through the summer save for a few heat spikes early in June and July which were far enough from harvest to cause few worries. A late heat spike in early October provided energy for the last few blocks, and harvest wrapped up shortly thereafter.

The wines are softer than in 2013, and more accessible in their youth. The vintage evoked some comparisons to 2004, another early year without too many overly hot days. The vintage's evenness led to wines that are well balanced with good acidity, so despite showing well young they should also age well, as we have seen with the 2004s.

2014
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY
ESTATE GROWN
PINOT NOIR

