

2013 Foss Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Notes of earth, black cherry and cherry pit lead on the nose in this elegant offering. Rooibos tea and cedar notes further add to its complexity. Very round at the entry, the Foss site provides for a supple, polished tannin structure and the finish lingers on with a medley of bergamot citrus peel and dusty cocoa powder notes.

THE VINEYARD

The Foss Vineyard sits above Eastside Road in the Middle Reach region of the Russian River Valley. With a fine, clay loam soil type and a temperate microclimate, this site is extremely well drained and therefore an excellent site for Pinot Noir. Planted to Pommard, Swan, Mt. Eden, and 667 clones — together they offer a rich and complex palette to draw from in blending this incredibly rich and complex wine.

HARVEST 2013

With great back-to-back vintages, 2013 was every bit as good as 2012 has proven to be. Amidst concerns about another drought year, the rain gauges filled up to about 80% of the yearly average. The growing conditions were very favorable, which resulted in a remarkably similar growing season to the exceptional 2012 vintage. The only notable difference, however, was the increase of heat units in 2013, as measured by the Growing Degree Day index. With below average rainfall for the season bud break initiated earlier than average along Westside Road. April showers helped to drive good shoot growth and set the plants up for May flowering. Excellent weather at flowering time allowed for fantastic set and a bountiful yield across all appellations and varieties. Even with an earlier start to the growing season, the grapes had the ideal amount of time on the vine to achieve full maturity without any threat of inclement weather late in the season. Wines from the 2013 vintage exhibit extremely pure and polished tannins and the acidity will provide longevity, but the supple structure also offers earlier enjoyment.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 60% new, 40% 1 year

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.58

TA: 0.58g/100mL

Alc: 13.2%

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\$58

