

2013 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

The bright, vivid color of the 2013 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir suggests brightness through and through. Red cherry and violets intermix with notes of cinnamon stick, Rooibos tea, and earthen pottery. Red fruits and spice continue on the palate. Laser-like acidity through the middle is balanced with the overall thickness of this wine and gives it a round, polished feel. Allow this wine to blossom in the glass or age for three to five years before enjoying, if you have the patience. This is a classic Russian River Valley Pinot Noir in the making.

THE VINEYARDS

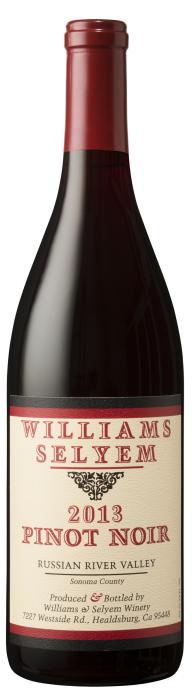
The Pinot Noir for this blend was primarily sourced from our Drake Estate Vineyard, our Williams Selyem Estate Vineyard and the Bucher and Bacigalupi Vineyards.

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, as well.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 40% new, 38% 1 year old, 22% 2 year old Barrel Aged: 11 months pH: 3.56 TA: 0.62g/100ml Alc: 14.0% Released Spring 2015 \$52



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