

2011 PINOT NOIR

Mendocino County



IN THE VINEYARD

This is a blend of Pinot Noir from three different locations: Potter Valley, Anderson Valley, and Oppenlander Vineyard. Potter Valley is a slightly higher-elevation appellation with cooler night temperatures, allowing the grapes to develop complete varietal characteristics. Oppenlander Vineyard, half-way between Ukiah and the coast, has a micro-climate ideal for growing Pinot Noir. The Anderson Valley fruit (Handley and Romani) benefits from the occasional fog and cooler night temperatures that come with our proximity to the Pacific Ocean. 2011 was a challenging vintage, with cooler than average overall temperatures and early autumn rains, but our years of experience in the westerly end of Anderson Valley have given us the tools to handle whatever conditions each growing season brings.

IN THE CELLAR

The grapes were brought in cool to the winery and gently crushed (40% whole berries) into open top fermenters. We gently punched down the tanks twice daily during fermentation to provide oxygen to the yeast and to encourage extraction of tannins and color. The fermenters were pressed at dryness. After allowing it to settle for three days, we racked the wine to French oak barrels (19% new) for nine months of lees stirring and aging before bottling.

IN THE BOTTLE

This Mendocino County Pinot Noir offers aromas of raspberry, cherry, and cranberry, with intriguing hints of cappuccino, toffee, and crème brûlée. Flavors of cherry, strawberry and pomegranate follow on the palate. The finish hints of chocolate and violets.

AT THE TABLE

With its firm texture and bright acidity, this is a perfect wine to serve with pork dishes, like Porchetta, or barbequed ribs.

GRAPE VARIETAL
100% Pinot Noir

VINEYARDS
61% Iron Oak
21% Oppenlander
14% Handley Estate
4% Romani

APPELLATIONS
Potter Valley
Mendocino County
Anderson Valley

BOTTLING DATE
September 5, 2012

ALCOHOL
13.8%

TITRATABLE ACIDITY
4.7 g/L

pH
3.52

CASES PRODUCED
1293

RELEASE DATE
October 2013

