

Few areas in the world are blessed with just the right balance of warm days and cool nights that are needed to produce great Pinot Noir. The Russian River Valley appellation is one of those areas - and we take full advantage of it. To begin with, we choose to work with growers who know this varietal and we collaborate with them to grow and pick the fruit when flavors are well developed but before any overly pruney or raisiny characters show up.

we then ensure grapes are hand-picked at night or at first light and delivered cool to the winery where they are de-stemmed (not crushed) and allowed to cold soak for three days before fermentation is allowed to begin. Lots are either inoculated or allowed to ferment on their own, a decision we make once we assess the quality of the incoming fruit. Once the alcoholic fermentation is complete, wines are drawn into French oak barrels (about 30% new) where they complete the malolactic fermentation and age on the fine lees until late spring. We aim to make a Pinot Noir that is layered and complex, one that evolves in your glass and keeps delivering new nuances. As with all of the Longboard wines, balance and elegance is what we strive for.

The 2016 vintage was small, it exhibits fruit character when young (plum, black cherry) and slowly develops a strawberry, black tea and rose-petal aromas. A slight roasted character from our Burgundy-sourced barrels integrates into the mid palate and follows into the long, supple finish. Pinot Noir loves the company of food, especially Salmon, aged cheeses, rare Ahi Tuna and Duck breast to name a few of our favorites.

Cheers Old Shall.



2016 PINOT NOIR RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

Composition: 100% Pinot Noir Clones 115,667,777 & Pommard.

Appellation: 100% Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

Fermentation: 3 Day cold-soak, Open top fermentation

Ageing: 11 months in French Oak barrels. 30% New

Analysis: Alcohol 13.7 % TA 6.5 g/L pH 3.63

Production: 481 Cases

Release Price: \$ 42.00