



#### **ABOUT THE VINEYARD...**

The 2019 Carneros Pinot Noir comes from the Toyon Vineyard, located in the Napa side of Carneros. This vineyard was originally planted for us in 1998 with cuttings tracing back to the Swan estate in Sonoma County and Dijon 115 - followed by cuttings from Ed Penhoet's vineyard in Carmel Valley. Ed's selection from Carmel Valley's River Ranch is a story into itself (ask us sometime!), known as the "River Ranch Clone" and now proprietary since Ed went through the tedious process of registering the clone and cleaning it of all virus.

#### **ABOUT THE VINTAGE...**

2019 brought us well timed rainfall brought and nice Spring growing conditions much like the excellent 2018 season. A slightly smaller crop and a little warmth late in the season emphasized concentration and structure in the '19s. It is a vintage with a little more fruit forward hedonism upon release, but will continue to unfold and reward with evolution in the bottle.

#### **ABOUT THE WINE...**

We separated the entire lot into one ton, open-top fermenters, employing traditional punch-downs by hand in order to achieve optimal extraction. About 5% of the fruit was fermented as whole clusters. The wine was aged in an array of French cooperage, nearly half new, and gently racked once prior to bottling. Grapes, must, and wines were moved using gravity through to the barrel and using inert gas through racking and bottling - promoting graceful aging.  
658 cases produced.

#### **TASTING NOTES...**

The 2019 exhibits the expected mouthcoating texture that sets our Carneros Pinot Noir apart. In its youth is skewed more to the spicy end of the spectrum with currants, orange spice and cocoa. Dark cherry and wild berry notes open with time in the glass and characteristic notes of anise. Subtle earth notes, hummus and truffles add interest as well as exotic hibiscus nuances. It is concentrated on the palate, exhibiting the structure of the vintage. The wine finishes long and savory inviting the next sip.