



ABOUT THE VINEYARD...

Toyon Farm, owned by Ed and Camille Penhoet, is located on a southwest-facing slope on the eastern (Napa) side of the Carneros. The topsoil is dark rich clay, averaging just around 24 inches in depth. These soils promote a dark, brooding fruit, emphasizing texture and tannin. The Toyon designate is now entirely from a block of Pinot noir planted on the north slope of the vineyard. The cuttings are originally from a famous vineyard in Burgundy, via Ed Penhoet's River Ranch vineyard planted in the '70s. As the original source of the Pisoni vineyard – it also referred to as "Pisoni Clone" or River Ranch selection.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE...

Timing is everything in life as well as in the vineyard. 2014 marked another year of record-breaking drought, however the year began with adequate soil moisture supported by well-timed rains resulting in an overall pleasant growing season. Warm and moderate weather with plenty of sun ripened grapes completely and made this an early budding and early harvesting vintage. Since everything was basically ready to pick at the same time, this made for an extremely intense harvest of long hours to ensure all the grapes received the attention they needed. Similar to the last two vintages, this year gave us an average sized crop with this one yielding soft, hedonistic wines that showed delicious fruit very early on – even in the barrel far before bottling!

ABOUT THE WINE...

We separated the entire lot into 1 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 with a gentle push of inert gas through racking and bottling. 50 cases produced.

TASTING NOTES...

Our direct representation of the Toyon Farm terroir, this wine showcases bright mouthwatering spiciness that melds effortlessly into a rich palate coating smoothness. Greets with notes of dark berries, spiced herbs, and toasted nut intermingled with orange spiced tea and white chocolate. The brooding palate, dominated by an almost visceral layer of mouth-coating tannins and mid-palate flavors of boysenberry, blood orange and pomegranate, is balanced with a bright, palate-lifting acidity. It finishes with chewy chocolaty tannins accentuating a firm finish that offers promise for greater things to come. This deep and balanced wine is structured to age gracefully for years, if you can keep a bottle around that long.

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