

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...

Ample rain brought an end to our five-year drought and the 2017 vintage produced the high quality of fruit that we had enjoyed in the prior seasons. It was an unusually wet year with a mild spring that allowed the vigorous vines to flower extensively. Record-breaking heat in the days leading to harvest fully ripened the grapes, developing sugar and flavor, while cool nights ensured wines would retain mouthwatering acidity. Our harvest wrapped up, with wine aging in barrel and safe from smoke damage, long before the October fires visited Napa. Ultimately, we were gifted a smaller vintage than the originally anticipated and we were very happy with the high quality of the grapes. Deliciously juicy, our wines excited our palates months 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. 45 cases produced.

TASTING NOTES...

Our single vineyard designation from Carneros showcases the power and complex depth of Toyon Farm terroir. Dark and well spiced, the rich mouthfeel of this wine is intoxicatingly smooth. The bouquet is filled with notes of dark berries and earthy spiced herbs. The brooding palate, dominated by mouth-coating tannins and mid-palate flavors of mocha and raspberry, is balanced with palate-lifting acidity. It finishes round with chewy chocolaty tannins that accentuate a luxuriating finish that offers promise for greater things to come. This deep and balanced wine is structured to age gracefully for years, revealing ever-evolving velvety layers to explore and enjoy.

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