



### **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...**

We enjoyed consistent weather in 2018, with plenty of rain at the beginning of the year leading into a later start to the growing season, endowing us with an even and plentiful fruit set. This generally dry and cooler vintage free of heat spikes allowed for the grapes to enjoy extensive hang time on the vine, gradually developing excellent flavor and acidity without a single hint of overripeness. Not only was the vintage superb in quality, it gave us an abundance of plump grapes. Juicy and complex, the wines of this vintage are delicious to enjoy in their youth while their acidity and structure promise greatness for long-term cellaring.

### **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. 76 cases produced.

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

Our single vineyard designation from Carneros showcases the power and deep complexity of Toyon Farm terroir. This vintage is quite approachable in its youth with a rich and textural mouthfeel. The bouquet is filled with notes of dark berries and earthy notes. Mouth-coating tannins and flavors of coffee, black cherry, and blackberry dominate the brooding palate. It finishes round with chewy chocolaty tannins that accentuate a luxuriously long finish that offers promise for greater things to come. It drinks deliciously now, and if you can resist a little - years in the cellar will reveal ever-softening velvety layers to explore and enjoy.