



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

Our association with Toyon Farm has been a grand partnership dating back to 1998. The next generation has begun as Rob Bonavito has taken the reins of this exceptional vineyard. It 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 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 (and beginning in 2017 an Ancien vineyard designate). As the original source of the Pisoni vineyard – it also referred to as "Pisoni Clone" or River Ranch selection, which preceded it.

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

The 2023 growing season was late, long and cool. We finished the season with one of our latest vintages. Ample Spring moisture launched the vines into the season and created enough growth and vigor to carry the vines through to the end of this long season. While warmer conditions have prevailed in other areas, the coastal areas of California continue to benefit from the maritime influence and moderating influence that it brings.

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

We separate the 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. 95 cases produced.

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

The 2023 vintage is a particularly aromatic version of the Toyon Farm Pinot Noir, still its primary personality is toward darker deeper flavors of wild blackberries, chocolate, and kirsch. The texture, characteristically, is lush in texture, soft and mouthcoating. Chewy tannins and fresh herbs linger in the finish. It is a Pinot Noir on the bolder side, well suited for richer dishes and reduction sauces. Drinking very well at release, and will continue to evolve for 4 – 7 years.