



ABOUT THE VINEYARD...

Our Carneros Pinot Noir comes entirely 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 River Selection is a story into itself (ask us sometime!), and is sometimes referred to as "Pisoni Clone" since Gary Pisoni took cuttings from the vineyard in the early '80s.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE...

Small but intense, the 2015 vintage did not give us a lot of fruit to work with but what we received yielded outstanding wines. The drought continued and its effects were only exacerbated by unseasonable weather – warm in the winter on into spring resulted in early bud break, yet cold weather during flowering resulted in an uneven fruit set, which ultimately meant smaller crops. Once summer arrived, it brought warmth with it and led to another early harvesting vintage. Attention to detail in the vineyard meant that the grapes that made it to harvest were high quality . . . giving us wines with exciting flavors and a lot of personality!

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. 440 cases produced.

TASTING NOTES...

The focused concentration of this vintage gives us a spiced nose with vibrant sour black raspberry and wild cherry cola notes. The luxurious palate is loaded with dark berries and combines seamlessly with hints of dark chocolate, anise, and Brazil nut. The palate is full of textural, mouth-coating tannins balanced by a bright acidity. The chewy tannins, earthy spices and minerality complement the fruit and floral notes signature to this wine. The palate will continue to develop in opulence over years of aging, revealing even darker layers and more earth notes.