



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 as "Pisoni Clone" since Gary Pisoni took cuttings from the vineyard in the early '80s.

ABOUT THE VINTAGE...

We received much needed rain in the winter of 2015, which put us back on the road to having healthier levels of soil moisture. The 2016 vintage began early, much like the previous vintages, and the optimal growing season caused us to speculate that this would be a very early harvest as well. An unseasonably cool spell visited us mid-summer, slowing down growth. After this brief spell, very warm days followed by cool nights finished off the growing season, giving us a great balance of ripe fruit and mouthwatering acidity. While not as early as projected, our harvest still ended up wrapping up long before the rains of October came.

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. 699 cases produced.

TASTING NOTES...

Carneros spice blends in an endless symphony with wild berry notes. Delicious blueberry notes grace the palate and combine seamlessly with hints of dark chocolate and juicy Asian plum. The palate is round and full of textural, mouth-coating tannins balanced by a bright acidity. Broad chewy tannins, earthy spices and minerality complement the fruit and exotic floral notes of this wine. The palate will continue to develop in opulence over years of aging, revealing even darker layers and an increasingly smooth texture.