

2012 Rochioli Riverblock Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

Alluring Bing cherry and vanilla immediately jump from the glass but give way to deeper notes of smoked meats, grilled herbs and minerals. The 2012 Rochioli Riverblock Pinot Noir shows intensity on the palate that is nearly unmatched in the Russian River Valley, though the wine manages to retain a sense of restraint with its elegant, silky tannins and long finish. This vintage is a classic in the making and can be cellared for 7-10 years.

THE VINEYARD

Rochioli Riverblock vineyard is located six miles southwest of the town of Healdsburg, banking the Russian River. Fog-cooled evenings and moderately warm daytime temperatures make the Russian River Valley region ideal for growing Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes.

HARVEST 2012

Simply put, the 2012 vintage was amazing in many respects. After the cool growing seasons of 2010 and 2011, which resulted in excellent quality but very low yields, Mother Nature was smiling on us in 2012 with superb growing conditions for a bountiful harvest. The exceptional weather during the spring allowed for moderate vegetative growth, superb flowering conditions and an above average fruit set — berries and clusters sized up beyond original expectations. 2012 was a vintage where ripe mature stems, seeds and skin tannins were achieved with harmoniously balanced natural acidity. Enveloped with pure intense aromas, juicy flavors and rich textures, these structured wines are clearly the result of a truly extraordinary vintage. A vintage like this, where everything comes together perfectly, is rare and will certainly be a vintage to enjoy for many years to come!

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 64% new oak, 36% 1 year

Barrel Aged: 16 months

pH: 3.50

TA: 0.62g/100mL

Alc: 13.9%

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