

2013 Calegari Vineyard Pinot Noir

WINEMAKER COMMENTS

With the recent addition of Mt. Eden and Swan clones to the blend, there is increased complexity both in the nose and mouth. Dried rose petal, anise, fennel seed and cinnamon comingle with cranberry and red cherry notes. The entry is full and spreads out to cover the entire palate. Young tannin dominate the middle of the tongue, and the finish takes on an English breakfast tea-like component.

THE VINEYARD

In 2001, approximately 14 acres of Pinot Noir were planted to clones 115 and 777, and more recently, Mt. Eden and Swan clones were added. 2008 marked the first vintage grapes were purchased from the Calegari Vineyard, and for many years these grapes were the anchor of the acclaimed Eastside Road Neighbors bottling. After working with the grapes for several vintages, we decided that the Calegari fruit warranted its own designation. The signature of this wine is its bright red fruit and floral qualities; the Calegari Vineyard Pinot Noir exemplifies true Russian River Valley style.

HARVEST 2013

With great back-to-back vintages, 2013 was every bit as good as 2012 has proven to be. Amidst concerns about another drought year, the rain gauges filled up to about 80% of the yearly average. The growing conditions were very favorable, which resulted in a remarkably similar growing season to the exceptional 2012 vintage. The only notable difference, however, was the increase of heat units in 2013, as measured by the Growing Degree Day index. With below average rainfall for the season bud break initiated earlier than average along Westside Road. April showers helped to drive good shoot growth and set the plants up for May flowering. Excellent weather at flowering time allowed for fantastic set and a bountiful yield across all appellations and varieties. Even with an earlier start to the growing season, the grapes had the ideal amount of time on the vine to achieve full maturity without any threat of inclement weather late in the season. Wines from the 2013 vintage exhibit extremely pure and polished tannins and the acidity will provide longevity, but the supple structure also offers earlier enjoyment.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Barrel Description: 59% new, 41% 1 year

Barrel Aged: 15 months

pH: 3.44

TA: 0.67g/100mL

Alc: 13.8%

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\$58

