DARMS LANE Napa Valley



2014 PINOT NOIR, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY LIBRARY WINE SELECTION FOR FEB 2023 CLUB SHIPMENT

VINEYARD: Our Pinot Noir is a blend of two vineyards in the Russian River Valley. The Barron Vineyard is a Dutton Ranch property in the Green Valley area that has lighter, silty soils and develops its plush, red-fruited characters slowly. The Confidant Vineyard lies on a western facing slope in northern Russian River giving it great sun exposure and concentrated fruit with smaller berries and intense color.

APPELLATION: Russian River Valley, Sonoma County

GROWING SEASON: The 2014 vintage started with bud break in early March. Temperatures were unusually even and a bit warmer for the first half of the growing season leading to expectations of a very early harvest. Things cooled down in August and into early September allowing the grapes to slowly approach their peak, enabling us to pick at optimal ripeness. The Barron Vineyard ripened the most evenly we have seen in the past 5 vintages. The Confidant Vineyard again yielded clusters of smaller berries giving us a wine with intense color, concentrated darker fruits, and intriguing spice and mineral notes.

HARVEST DATE: Barron Vineyard September 4 and Confidant Vineyard September 12

VARIETAL: 100% Pinot Noir - 54% Barron Vineyard - 46% Confidant Vineyard

WINEMAKER: Brian Mox

BARREL AGING: 10 months in Oak – 39% new: 100% French

TASTING NOTES: Tense and vibrant, our 2014 Pinot Noir displays fresh aromas of red cherry, dried rose petals, vanilla, and clove/cinnamon spice with sun-warmed stone minerality. The palate is plush with layered notes of black cherry, cherry pie, cranberry relish, cinnamon and graham cracker and has a fresh lively acidity.

LIBRARY NOTES: Our 2014 Pinot Noir was bottled August 20, 2015 and was sold from February 2016 - October 2017. Our Club members received this wine in your Club shipment in February of 2016. We held back 20 cases of the wine for our library and those are the bottles that we have been storing in a temp-controlled warehouse just for you.

APRIL 2022 WINE DESCRIPTION: The 2014 Pinot Noir library selection is one of the last wines produced using the Dutton farmed Barron Vineyard blended with the Confidant Vineyard. The two sites created a heavier weighted but still vibrant Pinot. The wine is aging nicely exhibiting a plush concentrated palate. We now find aromas of fig, ripe cherry and cola. The 2014 could be considered a Cab lover's Pinot. Ready to drink now.

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