



**2017 ENROUTE
AMBER RIDGE VINEYARD PINOT NOIR
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY**

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Harvest Dates: August 31 & September 1, 2017

Fermentation: 3, 4 & 6-ton concrete open top tanks,
15% whole cluster

Skin Contact: 12 days

Aging: 14 months in French oak barrels
(50% new / 50% neutral)

Release Date: November 2019

Alcohol Level: 14.5%

First Vintage: 2013

Winemaker: Andrew Delos

Director of Winemaking: Dirk Hampson

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

We consider Amber Ridge Vineyard the backbone of our EnRoute Pinot Noir, “Les Pommiers.” Located off Starr Road, this 22-acre vineyard is the warmest site from which we source fruit. Although temperatures rarely exceed 90°F, the vineyard enjoys extended mornings and evenings with clear, warm skies. Fog, the hallmark of the Russian River Valley, begins its early morning recession towards the coast, starting at the northern end of the valley and then returning in the late afternoon from the south. This seasonal fog pattern can allow for up to three extra hours of sunlight and warmth when compared to our vineyards just 12 miles away on the southern end of the valley.

HARVEST NOTES

The growing season of 2017 was a bit of a roller coaster ride with more extreme weather than usual. Adequate rainfall filled the soils, allowing for normal budbreak and good vine growth. A small hailstorm in June caused a slight concern of decreasing crop size, but we were very fortunate to have minimal damage. Mature berry tannins and vibrant red-and-black fruit flavors with perfect sugars were present by the third week of August, with picking beginning shortly after.

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2017 Amber Ridge Pinot Noir begins with spectacular aromas of juicy, red fruit complemented by touches of black olive, sweet anise and floral notes. With a commanding entry, this wine possesses great density and texture that continues to build with each sip. Enticing flavors of potpourri and cedar round out this luscious Pinot Noir.



ENROUTE WINERY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR