



**2017 ENROUTE
NORTHERN SPY VINEYARD PINOT NOIR
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY**

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Harvest Dates: September 16 & 30, 2017

Fermentation: 3, 4 & 6-ton concrete open top tanks

Skin Contact: 10 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

Northern Spy Vineyard's 17.5 acres of double-Guyot-trained vines are rooted in the region's famous Goldridge sandy loam soils, comprised of weathered sandstone and granite, with a fine, almost powder-like topsoil. Located in the Green Valley area of the Southwest corner of the Russian River Valley, this vineyard enjoys very cool nights and mornings. Fog typically covers the vineyard from 6:00pm until about 11:00am during the summer months. Daytime temperatures typically hover in the low-to-mid 80s, creating vines that have intensely concentrated, small berries. The cool temperatures and less direct sunlight lead to vines that are harvested up to one month later than the much warmer Amber Ridge Vineyard.

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

Greeting the senses with aromas of cedar, sweet vanilla and other confectionery notes, our 2017 Northern Spy Pinot Noir is utterly alluring from the first swirl of the glass. On the palate, flavors of herbes de Provence and rich blue fruits, almost candied in character, coat the tongue while being supported by bright, balanced acidity and minerality. A concentration of flavor on the mid-palate will allow this wine to age gracefully for years to come.



ENROUTE WINERY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR