



2015 ENROUTE PINOT NOIR
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY, “LES POMMIERS”

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Release Date: Spring 2017

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

First Vintage: 2007

Harvest Dates: August 14 – September 16, 2015

Winemaker: Andrew Delos

Skin Contact: 14 day average

Director of Winemaking: Dirk Hampson

Aging: 11 months in French oak barrels
(40% new / 60% neutral)

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Our Northern Spy Vineyard in Russian River Valley’s Green Valley AVA was an abandoned apple orchard that was groomed specifically for EnRoute. We are thrilled with the quality of the fruit coming from this site, which grows on the region’s famous Goldridge soils. Pommard 5, Mt. Eden, Swan, 2A and Dijon clones 115 and 777 are planted on 101-14 rootstock with 4 x 7 spacing in this vineyard. Our Amber Ridge Vineyard is located on rolling terrain in the upper Middle Reach area of the Russian River Valley. Planted with bilateral vertical trellising, the clonal mix includes Pommard 5, Calera and Dijon clones 115, 667 and 777 using 101-14 rootstock to limit vigor. Manzana Vineyard continues to play an important role in the Les Pommiers blend, with its hillside fruit planted in Green Valley to Dijon clones 114, 115 and Pommard 5.

HARVEST NOTES

2015 was the earliest harvest on record for EnRoute, with vineyards being picked an average of 14 days early. Drought conditions in spring and early summer resulted in a greatly reduced crop with uncommonly small, yet concentrated, berries. As the warm summer progressed, our fruit matured quickly, and wonderful ripe flavors began to develop in early August. By the second week of August we began to see beautiful, mature, berry tannins and fresh red and black fruit flavors. Harvest began in the warmer northern Russian River Valley on August 14 and slowly progressed south, finally finishing in the cool Green Valley AVA a month later.

SENSORY EVALUATION

Lovely aromas of blackberry and Bing cherry are balanced by notes of sage, underbrush, and a touch of forest floor. Deep color, firm, yet fine-grained tannins, and a rich, juicy midpalate are hallmarks of the 2015 vintage. Because of this wine’s structure and intensity, setting a few bottles aside in the cellar for five or ten years will reap rewards.



ENROUTE WINERY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR