



**2016 ENROUTE
NORTHERN SPY VINEYARD PINOT NOIR
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY**

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Harvest Date: September 12–15, 2016

Fermentation: 4 and 5-ton open top tanks,
10% whole cluster

Skin Contact: 15 days

Aging: 15 months in French oak barrels

Release Date: November 2018

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

A warm, dry spring woke our vines up very early in the year, with budbreak and bloom in late February to early March. Clusters ripened slowly and evenly over the warm summer months, with tannins and fruit flavors not showing full maturity until the first two weeks of September. Northern Spy was our last vineyard to be harvested, with our first grapes coming into the winery on September 12. From the onset of fermentation, the wines displayed lovely red and black fruit aromas with pronounced floral notes. Tannins were soft and elegant and colors ranged from a beautiful transparent purple to Bing-cherry red, resulting in wines that are lusciously perfumed and silky on the palate. The 2016 vintage is extremely pleasing upon release, but because of its balance and pedigree, will reward anyone who should choose to lay some down for 5–10 years or more!

SENSORY EVALUATION

The 2016 Northern Spy displays the hallmark aromas of Green Valley: intense floral perfume, bright Bing cherry and raspberry, and subtle earth and mineral notes. The wine opens with a burst of fresh crushed red fruit flavors followed by a wonderful juiciness that persists from start to finish. Incredibly silky tannins seem to glide across the palate, while a mouthwatering natural acidity provides a finish that is bright, elegant and absolutely refreshing.



ENROUTE WINERY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR