



**2017 ENROUTE
BUCHER VINEYARD PINOT NOIR
RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY**

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Harvest Date: August 31, 2017

Fermentation: 5 & 6-ton open top tanks

Skin Contact: 11 days

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

Release Date: November 2019

Alcohol Level: 14.5%

First Vintage: 2016

Winemaker: Andrew Delos

Director of Winemaking: Dirk Hampson

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

The steeply sloped Bucher Vineyard in Russian River Valley grows two heritage clones we selected to produce this enchanting single-vineyard Pinot Noir. Located off of Westside Road in the Middle Reach area of Russian River Valley, Bucher Vineyard Pinot Noir is planted upon well-drained Arbuckle gravelly loam soil using clones 777, 115, 37 and Pommard 4. This wine's dark fruit aromas and earthy flavors are typical expressions of the clones, which benefit from warm days and cool, breezy evenings along the nearby banks of the Russian River.

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 Bucher Vineyard Pinot Noir showcases great earthiness, reflective of the vineyard's terroir. Decidedly old-world in character, with notes of forest floor, graphite, mushroom and black olive present on both the nose and the palate. Ample tannin and structure form a velvet glove around the tongue presenting a full mouth-feel immediately upon entry and lingering to the finish.



ENROUTE WINERY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR