



**2018 EnRoute
Amber Ridge Vineyard Pinot Noir
Russian River Valley**

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Harvest Date: September 4-17, 2018

Fermentation: 4, 5, and 6-ton open top tanks,
11% whole cluster

Skin Contact: 13 days

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

Release Date: November 2020

Alcohol Level: 14.5%

First Vintage: 2013

Winemaker: Michael Accurso

Director of Winemaking: Andrew Delos

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

A warm February followed by a mild, slightly cooler spring 2018 led to long bloom and wonderfully consistent fruit set. That consistency continued into the summer with moderate temperatures and a mild July that put the brakes on any late summer heat spikes. The long, slow season allowed for ideal ripening and picking decisions. We harvested our first Chardonnay blocks on October 1, and the fruit that came into the winery showed pitch perfect maturity, with bright acidity and beautiful balance.

SENSORY EVALUATION

Amazingly pure aromas of cherry, plum and raspberry meld with soft notes of mineral, rhubarb and rose petal. On the palate, generous juicy berry flavors melt into a finish that is long and silky. With its elegant perfume and ripe fruit flavors, this vintage will continue to shine for years to come.



ENROUTE WINERY

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT