



Wattle Creek 2013 Pinot Noir
Russian River, Sonoma County

Winemaker Notes

Classic Pinot Noir aromas abound in this delightful wine. Wilted Rose petals, dried cherries, zesty raspberries and Maraschino cherries fill the glass with a core of rich, pure fruit notes. Subtle notes of minerality and mixed red berries poke in and out from time to time. The frame work of this wine is delicate. The tannins are supple and have richness without being heavy or tannic in the mouth. Pure fruit notes carry from the aroma through the taste with a long, lingering finish. This wine does best with a short decant and works well with lighter foods such as creamy pasta, grilled chicken and chunky white fishes.

Vintage & Winemaking

2013 was a classic California vintage an early bloom followed by a heat wave gave the vineyards a kick start and has some worried we may be picking by the 4th of July. Fortunately some cooler weather prevailed and allowed for the extended hang time needed to make a truly excellent vintage. By late August the warmer summer weather returned and allowed for some beautiful sun kissed fruit to reach peak maturity.

After achieving the desired flavors in the vineyard, this Pinot Noir was harvested by hand into picking bins in the middle of the night while the grapes were cold in an effort to preserve the delicate flavors that are key to this varietal. The fruit was received in the cellar before the sun came up, where the grapes were 80 % destemmed only and not crushed then sent to small open top fermenters. We held the grapes cold also known as “cold soaking” for 7-8 days to allow the Pinot Noir (which is a lightly colored grape variety) to pick up maximum color before fermentation. Once the Pinot had sufficiently soaked, we allowed the fermenters to warm up naturally for a wild fermentation. We hand plunged the skins in the open tops 3-4 times a day for the duration of the fermentation and then drained the free run juice from the skins. The juice was sent to all French Oak barrels where it was aged on lees for 11 months. We assembled the final blend right before bottling for maximum varietal character.

Appellation	Russian River, Sonoma County
Variety/Blend	Pinot Noir 100 %
Vintage	2013
Oak Maturation	100%
New Oak	33%
Alcohol	14.2 %
Production	280 Cases