



## **1999 Russian River Pinot noir**

Talisman Cellars is dedicated to the production of very limited quantities of exceptional wines that reflect their origins. Unbound by Old World traditions, the most appropriate New World winemaking technologies are melded with the best classic Burgundian methods to create wines with distinctive character.

### **About the Talisman Logo**

The Talisman logo is a stylized representation of the *paho*, a native American charm that has been imbued with the power to protect one from harm. The elements of the paho represent the circle of life and the four directions, reminding us of our place in the universe. The rays around the paho represent the sun, which provides energy for life on Earth and ripens the grapes, which allow us to revel in the pleasures of life, including fine wine.

### **1999 Russian River Pinot noir Vineyards and Winemaking**

Talisman's first exploration into the Russian River appellation was made with grapes from the Klopp vineyard. This promising young vineyard is located in a neighborhood of famous vineyards and planted to a Dijon 115 clone and a field selection of Swan on non-vigorous soils composed largely of sand.

The growing season was long and cool, allowing the grapes to develop mature flavors and tannins. Fermentation was done in small lots with gentle punch-downs to optimize extraction. Extended maceration ensured that none of the fine-grained, high-quality tannins were left behind. The wine was aged in new and one-year-old French oak barrels for twelve months prior to bottling. Techniques that protect the young wine from air produce long-lived wines that are initially shy, but blossom in the glass with a little air.

### **1999 Russian River Pinot noir Tasting Notes**

Blackberry, smoke, and brambles best describe the aroma that wafts from a glass of this wine. The flavors are initially tight and focused, reminiscent of blackberries and Bing cherries. There is great tension between the slightly lean structure and the silky sweet mid-palate. This is delicious wine with persistent fruit on the finish. Like all vintages of Talisman Pinot noir, those with the patience to lay this wine down for a while will be handsomely rewarded with a wine that develops gracefully into maturity.

I hope that you enjoy this wine. If you have questions or comments regarding Talisman wines, don't hesitate to call. We'd love to hear from you.