



TALISMAN

2006 Hawk Hill Vineyard Pinot noir Russian River Valley

Talisman Winery is dedicated to the crafting of exquisite, soulful Pinot noirs that are true to their roots and accurately reflect the terroir and personality of their vineyard origin.

About the Talisman Logo

The Talisman logo is a stylized representation of a Native American medicine wheel. The elements of the medicine wheel represent the circle of life and the four directions, reminding us of our place in the universe. The rays around the medicine wheel represent the sun, which provides energy for life on Earth and ripens grapes, allowing us to revel in the pleasures of life, including fine wine.

Vineyards and Winemaking

Heavy rains during both winter and spring delayed budbreak about ten days beyond the norm and provided enough soil moisture to set the heaviest crop in the history of this vineyard, 2.2 tons per acre, considered a low yield all but the most extreme vineyards. A brief heat spike in mid-July was the only anomaly in an otherwise cool growing season. Cool weather continued into the fall, setting the stage for a late September harvest. The cool weather created high acid, low pH wines that should age exceptionally well.

The extra long hang time that grapes receive at this chilly site just seven miles from the ocean allow exceptional ripeness and flavor development at moderate sugars. Harvested October 16, two different clones of Pinot noir were co-fermented, with 30% of the grapes retained as whole clusters. Native yeasts commenced the fermentation after a five day soak. Thirty-five days after harvest, the vat was drained and the grapes were pressed. The wine went into French oak barrels (67% new) the next day. Malolactic fermentation took until the following spring to finish and was bottled after eighteen months in Dargaud et Jaegle, Marcel Cadet, Francois Freres, and Remond barrels.

Tasting Notes

This is a wine that slowly seduces you with each sip. Slightly brooding, the aroma is a luscious blend of aromatic raspberry, blueberry, and mineral. Black and blue fruit flavors mingle beautifully with a touch of *sauvage* character. This wine is truly harmonious with a silky, supple texture and rich, fine grained tannins. Our Hawk Hill bottling is a great example of a precisely balanced wine.

Details

Vineyard planted in: 1994

Vine spacing: 6' x 8'

Vine density: 908 vines per acre

Clones/selections: Dijon 115 and Pommard

Rootstock: 1103P

pH: 3.74

Titrateable acidity: 0.59 g/100mL

Alcohol: 14.1% by volume

Yield: 2.2 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 18 months, 67% new French oak

141 cases produced