



TALISMAN

2008 Gunsalus 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

Pamela and Glen Gunsalus (“gun-sail-us” – it’s Portuguese) are always in their vineyard, located on a west-facing slope in the Green Valley sub-appellation of the Russian River Valley. These two former scientific researchers have great intuition backed up by scientific rigor and it shows in the quality of their grapes. Because of its banana belt location, the Gunsalus Vineyard is consistently our first pick each year. The 2008 vintage started with an early budbreak. Dry soils due to tapering rains in February combined with chilly temperatures during flowering resulting in a light crop with small berries and concentrated flavors. September was greeted with a hot spell that pushed the grapes to ripeness and a September 4 harvest date.

Once the grapes arrived at the winery, a layer of whole clusters (approximately 25%) was laid on the floor of the tank and the balance of the grapes were gently destemmed into the fermenter and kept cold until a feral fermentation ensued seven days later. The fermenting mass was punched down several times each day and then macerated after the fermentation was complete. After pressing, the wine was aged in French oak barrels (Francois Frères, Dargaud et Jaegle, Marcel Cadet, Cadus, and Remond), where it underwent malolactic fermentation. Bottling occurred after 20 months of aging.

Tasting Notes

The 2008 Gunsalus Vineyard Pinot noir is an excellent example of the vibrant, lush delicious wines that emanate from this vineyard. The aroma of Bing cherries is married with sandalwood and spice... mmmmm. The flavor is a combination of blackberry and cherry that is complimented with a rich, fleshy, mouth-coating texture and a persistent finish. This wine is full of bright personality.

Details

Vineyard planted in: 2001

Vine spacing: 4' x 7'

Vine density: 1556 vines per acre

Clones/selections: Dijon 114, 115, Dijon 667, Dijon 777

Rootstock: 101-14

pH: 3.78

Titrateable acidity: 5.2 g/L

Alcohol: 14.3% by volume

Yield: 2.2 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 20 months, 75% new French oak

296 cases produced