



# TALISMAN

## 2012 Weir Vineyard Pinot noir

### Yorkville Highlands

*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

Planted in 1992, the Weir Vineyard is our most far-flung vineyard. Located in the Yorkville Highlands between Cloverdale and Mendocino, the vineyard's elevation (850'-1000') and aspect place it squarely in the path of cold air flowing in from the Mendocino coast, a mere 17 miles away. The 15 acre vineyard incorporates several soil types, including gravels, highly fractured rock and old sandstone. The topsoil is thin, limiting vine growth and vigor, while promoting concentration in the resulting wines.

It's difficult to write about perfection, so our summary of the 2012 vintage is just that – a summary (about Goldilocks). The entire vintage was just right – not too hot and not too cold. There was no rain until after the last grapes were picked and we never saw the heat spikes that normally punctuate harvest. Perfect!

As usual, most of the hard work of chasing perfection occurred in the vineyard, so our efforts in the winery were minimal. We picked September 28, sorted the fruit, used 25% whole cluster, native (although I prefer the term “feral”) yeast and malolactic fermentations, lots of manual punchdowns, and extended maceration. We used barrels from all five of our favorite coopers to help create complexity: Marcel Cadet, Remond, Francois Freres, Dargaud et Jaegle, and Rousseau.

#### Tasting Notes

This is an extraordinarily pretty, full, and complex wine with aromas in flavors in complete harmony. The fruit is primarily zingy berry and intense Santa Rosa plums. The texture, so important in Pinot noir, is quite round and graceful, framed by great structured depth from ripe tannins. The finish is quite persistent. Better to taste and enjoy the wine than read the words.

#### Details

Vineyard planted in: 1992

Vine spacing: 6' x 8'

Vine density: 908 vines per acre

Clones/selections: 2A, Pommard, Romanée-Conti, Rochioli

Rootstock: 5C

pH: 3.75

Titrateable acidity: 6.5 g/L

Alcohol: 14.5 % by volume

Yield: 2.7 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 21 months, 64% new French oak

Production: 268 cases produced