



TALISMAN

2014 Red Dog Vineyard Pinot noir

Honey's Cuvée

Sonoma Mountain

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

Located high on the northwest flank of Sonoma Mountain, this panoramic mountainside site is the recipient of coastal fog and cool air flowing from the chilly Pacific through the Petaluma Gap and slamming directly into the upper reaches of Sonoma Mountain. The soils are low-vigor loamy clays, thus the grapes on this site ripen very slowly, providing perfect conditions for complete and complex flavor development. Fog often persists in the mornings when the sun has risen above the eastern slope and by the time the afternoon sun has made its impact on the western slope, the cold air and fog begin their journey back from coast to mountain.

2014 was the third year of a serious drought in Northern California giving us lower grape yields with tremendous concentration. A warm, relatively dry spring meant quick flowering, and warm temperatures during fruit set produced a nice even set. The summer was mild with very few heat spikes, giving us a consistent, well developed crop. Two weeks of fog at the end of August slowed things down, then a brief heat wave over Labor Day jump started harvest, with mild temperatures thereafter.

We made this using the simplest techniques that we could: 100% whole clusters in the fermenter, traditional pigeage (treading), native fermentation, native malolactic fermentation in barrel, extended maceration, and judiciously gentle pressing.

Tasting Notes

A fascinating perfumey, floral, intense aroma of cherry Lifesaver, mineral, balsa wood cardamom and fenugreek spice like an Asian Bazaar, is simply captivating. This wine is structured and tannic with a deep fruit component like a steak of strawberry jam or fruit rollup. The texture is broad, thick, deep and slightly tart with mouthcoating richness. It seems cool, dark and shady in the mouth with a finish that lingers a very long time.

Details

Vineyard planted in 2000
Vine spacing: 5' x 8'
Vine density: 1089 vines per acre
Clones/selections: Pommard
Rootstock: 3309

pH: 3.75
Titratable acidity: 6.0 g/L
Alcohol: 14.4% by volume
Yield: 2.4 tons of grapes per acre
Barrel aging: 21 months, 50% new French oak

46 cases produced