



# TALISMAN

## 2014 Weir Vineyard Pinot Noir *Méthode Ancienne* 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.

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.

This wine was made using the most basic of methods. The fruit was sorted without destemming, placed directly into the fermenter, then stomped by virgins (okay, maybe the virgin part isn't accurate). After that, we watched nature do her thing with the fermentation. We simply punched down the grapes, waited for fermentation and tannins to resolve, pressed, then barreled. Nothing more until racking for bottling, then we hand-bottled the wine unfiltered and unfiltered.

### Tasting Notes

Amazing depth and complexity; 100% whole cluster fermentation gave this wine an incredible fine grained tannin structure, intense, perfumed broad flavors of raspberry, blackberry, incense, black tea, tobacco, plum and cranberry. Cocoa, citrus, black cherry, red rose petal... it just goes on and on, with a signature Weir vineyard tight core indicating a very long life ahead.

### Details

Vineyard planted in: 1992

Elevation: 850-1000' above sea level

Vine density: 908 vines per acre

Clones/selections: 2A, Romanée-Conti

Rootstock: 5C

pH: 3.76

Titrateable acidity: 5.8 g/L

Alcohol: 14.8% by volume

Yield: 2.2 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 21 months, 50% new French oak

47 cases produced