



TALISMAN

2005 Hawk Hill Vineyard Pinot noir Russian River Valley

*Talisman is dedicated to the creation of delicious wines that are true to their roots
and accurately reflect their places of origin.*

About the Talisman Logo

The Talisman logo is a stylized representation of the *paho*, a native American charm that has been imbued with the power to protect one from harm. The elements of the paho represent the circle of life and the four directions, reminding us of our place in the universe. The rays around the paho 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

Late spring rains delayed flowering and fruit set. A very mild summer slid into a harvest season that was remarkable for its pleasant, even temperatures and lack of heat spikes. This created the perfect scenario for long, extended hang time that allowed an unusual degree of flavor development. A short Indian summer pushed the grapes to ripeness, but led to the retention of great acid levels.

This vineyard, situated in a cool site less than ten miles from the coast, was harvested on October 11. The grapes achieved great physiological maturity, allowing the retention of 25% whole clusters in the fermenter. Both clones were co-fermented, leading to a harmonious and balanced wine. Six days of soaking at 60°F led to an eight day fermentation started by indigenous yeasts. Post-fermentation extended maceration brought the total time from picking to pressing to thirty-two days. The wine was gently transferred to French oak barrels, underwent a very slow malolactic fermentation, and was bottled after eighteen months of aging.

Tasting Notes

2005 Hawk Hill Pinot noir is a strikingly inky, intense wine. The perfumed aroma is layered with mineral, blackberry, plum, violets, and tobacco. Incensed notes of sandlewood, bramble, and cedar shavings contribute additional complexity. This wine is big and dense, with an extraordinary life ahead of it. The flavors are foreshadowed by the aromas and mingled with even more layers of toasty oak, earthy brambles, and Bing cherry. The finish is very juicy and extraordinarily persistent. This will be a very long-lived wine that will reward those with the patience for cellaring for at least a decade to come.

Details

Vineyard planted in 1994
Vine spacing: 6' x 8'
Vine density: 908 vines per acre
Clones/selections: Dijon 115 and Pommard
Rootstock: 1103P
Harvest date: October 11, 2005

pH: 3.70
Titratable acidity: 0.61 g/100mL
Alcohol :14.1% by volume
Yield: 2.2 tons of grapes per acre
Barrel aging: 18 months, 60% new French oak

Production: 194 cases produced