



TALISMAN

Kathy's Cuvée **2001 Carneros ~ Las Brisas Vineyard ~ Pinot noir**

This limited bottling, single vineyard Pinot noir is dedicated to Kathy Polucha Kessler, whom we lost in January of 2003. Special wines come from unique vineyards that convey a sense of place and a unique identity, and like people with their unique natures, cannot be replaced.

Talisman Cellars is dedicated to the production of very limited quantities of exceptional wines that reflect their origins. Unbound by Old World traditions, the most appropriate New World winemaking technologies are melded with the best classic Burgundian methods to create wines with distinctive character.

Vineyards and Winemaking

This 2001 Pinot noir was made with grapes sourced from the Las Brisas Vineyard, a special spot in the Carneros appellation that expresses deep plum and blackberry fruit flavors that marry beautifully with the French oak barrels in which it aged for 16 months. This wine offers a generous mouthful of flavor now, but will give you many, many years of hedonistic pleasure.

The 2001 vintage was marked by an early and severe frost, the likes of which had not been seen in Carneros since 1980. The frost reduced fruit yields to less than 2 tons per acre in the section of the Las Brisas vineyard that provided the grapes for this wine. This led to a wine with naturally exceptional depth and concentration. Only veraison thinning was required to balance yield and degree of ripeness. The grapes were simply destemmed with 25% retained as whole clusters, then left to soak prior to the start of a native fermentation. Part way through, a small amount of a commercial yeast strain was introduced to ensure completion of the process. After extended maceration and pressing, the wine completed malolactic fermentation in new French oak barrels, where it aged for sixteen months prior to bottling. Only 81 cases were produced.

We highly recommend opening this wine to give it a generous dose of air an hour or so before serving. This will allow the wine to “flesh out” and show off its silky, lush, round texture even more. Talisman Pinot noirs hold up beautifully for several days after opening. Please enjoy.

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.

If you have questions or comments regarding Talisman wines, please do not hesitate to call. We would love to hear from you. 707-258-5722. info@talismanwine.com. www.talismanwine.com.