



# TALISMAN

## 2002 Thorn Ridge Vineyard Pinot noir Sonoma Coast

*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

Thorn Ridge Vineyard has the distinction of being one of the least hospitable vineyard sites I have ever visited. Ted Klopp farms this desolate outpost located about five miles southwest of Sebastopol on the northern edge of the Petaluma Gap. The soils are low-vigor silt and the very limited water supply almost qualifies Thorn Ridge as a dry-farmed vineyard. Thorn Ridge Vineyard is pummeled by cold air and fog rushing through the lowest point in California's Coast Range, naturally limiting yields and ensuring extended hang times.

The vintage of 2002 was uncharacteristically marked by minor heat waves during every month of the growing season, followed by weekly temperature spikes during harvest. Rain during flowering kept yields low, which combined with the heat fluctuations to produce exceptionally ripe grapes.

The grapes were simply destemmed with approximately 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. The must was pressed after spending 34 days in vat. The wine underwent malolactic fermentation and sixteen months of aging in new and one-year-old French oak barrels from the coopers Francois Freres, Dargaud & Jaegle, Cadus, Remond and Marcel Cadet.

### Tasting Notes

A little riper than previous examples of Talisman's wine from this property, the aroma opens with hints of blackberry, chocolate, and mineral. The texture on the palate is round and voluptuous, redolent of blackberry, blueberry, and cherry cheesecake. There are glimpses of smoke and the wine finishes with a sensual texture and slightly grippy, fine-grained tannins. This wine reacts favorably with a bit of air and we don't hesitate to recommend a gentle decanting prior to serving.

### Details

Vineyard planted in: 1995  
Vine spacing 6' x 8'  
Clones/selections: Dijon 115, Swan, and Pommard  
Rootstock: 110R and 1103P  
Eastern exposure

pH: 3.79  
Titratable acidity: 0.46 g/100mL  
Alcohol: 14.1% by volume  
Yield: 1.7 tons/acre  
Barrel aging: 16 months, 60% new French oak,  
40% 1-year old French oak

245 cases produced