



# TALISMAN

## 2010 Huckleberry's Vineyard Pinot noir Russian River Valley

*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

Bill and Lauren Hipp, along with their dogs Huckleberry and Gracie, farm this vineyard in the Green Valley of Russian River Valley appellation just northwest of the small town of Graton. This is the first vintage from this pocket-sized parcel that sits on classic Russian River Gold Ridge soils. The closely-spaced vineyard is managed entirely by hand (Bill's and Lauren's!) and the attention to detail translates to the wine. 2010 was one of the coldest, longest growing seasons in recent memory. A cold, wet winter slid into a spring that really seemed like a continuation of winter. When summer finally arrived, things stayed cold until September, when the first real heat arrived. This tiny vineyard was finally picked October 5. The miniscule, concentrated crop translated into an incredible wine.

The grapes were hand-sorted at both the cluster and berry levels, leaving nothing but perfect fruit for the fermentation. A whole cluster component of about 25% was layered into the bottom of 1-ton fermenters and then destemmed fruit was loaded on top. The must soaked at around 60oF for five days before we saw the first signs of feral fermentation. We pressed and filled barrels after 37 days in vat. The wine was racked to a combination of new and once-filled barrels, where malolactic fermentation occurred. The wine was racked from barrel after 21 months, then hand-bottled with no fining or filtration.

### Tasting Notes

"Yum" was the first word spoken when this wine was tasted after bottling. The beautiful nose is a compelling mixture of boysenberry, chocolate, big, intense, forward raspberry fruit and a subtle mineral note. The palate is seamless and structurally supported with just the right amount of tannin to provide the perfect grip. Both high notes and low notes combine to create the perfect symphony of flavors. The wine finishes with juicy, persistent fruit.

### Details

Vineyard planted in: 2004  
Vine spacing: 3' x 5'  
Vine density: 2904 vines per acre  
Clones/selections: 115, 667  
Rootstock: 101-14

pH: 3.70  
Titratable acidity: 6.1 g/L OK  
Alcohol: 14.5% by volume  
Yield: 2.2 tons of grapes per acre  
Barrel aging: 21 months, 50% new French oak

40 cases produced