



TALISMAN

2014 Huckleberry's 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

Bill and Lauren Hipp, along with their dogs Huckleberry and Gracie, farm this vineyard on the edge of the Sonoma Coast appellation just northwest of the small town of Graton. This pocket-sized parcel sits on classic 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.

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. Overall, the harvest was slightly early and quite compressed.

This was the earliest harvest for Huckleberry's. All of the fruit was sorted and destemmed into a single fermenter, utilizing a whole cluster component of about 25%. We followed our standard protocol of cold soak, ambient yeast fermentation with lots of punch downs, extended post-fermentation maceration, followed by gentle pressing and malolactic fermentation in barrels. The whole adventure took 37 days from picking to barreling.

Tasting Notes

Soft, smooth effusive aromas of candied strawberry, rose petal, violets and blackberry are so alluring. This wine is juicy and bright with nice firm structure, brightness and great depth. Intense flavors of blackberry, boysenberry and plum linger into a beautiful finish.

Details

Vineyard planted in: 2004

Vine spacing: 3' x 5'

Vine density: 2904 vines per acre

Clones/selections: Dijon 115, 667, 777, 828

Rootstock: 101-14

Elevation: 70'

pH: 3.71

Titrateable acidity: 5.5 g/L

Alcohol: 14.7% by volume

Yield: 2.5 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 21 months, 50% new French oak

140 cases produced