



# TALISMAN

## 2014 Weir Vineyard Pinot Noir Yorkville Highlands

*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

Planted in 1992, the Weir Vineyard is our most far-flung vineyard. Located in the Yorkville Highlands between Cloverdale and Mendocino, the vineyard's elevation (850'-1000') and aspect place it squarely in the path of cold air flowing in from the Mendocino coast, a mere 17 miles away. The 15 acre vineyard incorporates several soil types, including gravels, highly fractured rock and old sandstone. The topsoil is thin, limiting vine growth and vigor, while promoting concentration in the resulting wines.

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.

We picked mid-September, lovingly hand-sorted the fruit, used 25% whole cluster, let the feral yeast take hold after several days, performed manual punchdowns every six hours, then sealed up the bins for an extended maceration. After 35 days on the skins, we pressed, settled and gently racked the wine into barrel, where malo-lactic took place. We selected barrels from all five of our favorite coopers to help create complexity: Marcel Cadet, Remond, Francois Freres, Dargaud et Jaegle, and Rousseau.

### Tasting Notes

Weir vineyard consistently makes gorgeously fragrant, sensual wines with intensity and restraint. High toned notes of red fruit, roses, velvet and cocoa; flavors of blueberry, vanilla bean, banana and plum. It's unctuous and structured with such grace and complexity and a crazy long, persistent finish.

### Details

Vineyard planted in: 1992

Elevation: 850-1000

Vine density: 908 vines per acre

Clones/selections: 2A, Pommard, Romanée-Conti, Rochioli

Rootstock: 5C

Elevation: 70'

pH: 3.77

Titrateable acidity: 5.9 g/L

Alcohol: 14.8 % by volume

Yield: 2.7 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 21 months, 60% new French oak

241 cases produced