



# TALISMAN

## 2016 Starscape 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

Starscape Vineyard (previously named Floodgate and prior to that, Mark West Vineyard) is located on Trenton-Healdsburg Road on the southern end of an area known as the Middle Reach of the Russian River. The Middle Reach is arguably the most iconic area for Russian River Pinot noir. We source Dijon 777 and an old block of Pommard from a south-facing slope composed of Laniger loam soils. An East-facing slope is the home of a younger planting of Dijon 828, one of the more recent imports to California.

2016 was a wonderful growing season after a winter with a bit more rain than the last five years. We enjoyed a mild spring and consistent warm weather continuing throughout the summer. The crop was beautifully balanced

The Pommard clone at Starscape was our first pick of the season. It was hand sorted and fermented in two one-ton fermenters with a 25% whole cluster component. The Dijon 777 and 828 clones were picked a week later and were also fermented with 25% whole cluster. Both the fermentations and malolactic fermentations were performed by feral organisms. Complexity was enhanced by the use of barrels from five different coopers. The wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered.

### Tasting Notes

What a beautiful, smooth, bright, lively Pinot... the bouquet exhibits an array of classic Russian River aromas; white pepper, cinnamon, sarsaparilla, strawberry, bay leaf, cola, sweet violets and black cherry. The mouthfeel is full round and substantial with fantastic balance and a softness like crushed velvet. On the palate we get a deep, dark, rich, super lush, sensual texture and flavors of juicy fruit, cherry tart, strawberry and a bit of orange zest. The finish is very long and graceful. Yum.

### Details

Clones/selections: Pommard, Dijon clones 777 and 828  
Yield: 2.7 tons of grapes per acre  
Harvested: Sept 6 (Pommard) & Sept 13 (777 & 828)  
Year planted: 1997

pH: 3.73  
Titratable acidity: 6.2 g/L  
Alcohol: 14.5%  
Barrel aging: 19 months, 59% new French oak

408 cases produced