



TALISMAN

2017 Sadie'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

Sadie's Vineyard is named for the family's first German Shepherd, who lived her life blissfully on this 5 acre parcel in beautiful Sebastopol Hills along the chilly Bodega Highway corridor. Shepherd #2, Kodiak, is now in charge of gopher monitoring. As a sweet reward, he gently snags a single ripe grape with his teeth every now and then. The site is planted to some of our favorite clones; Pommard and Dijon 115, and is composed of classic Goldridge soils, renowned for producing spectacular Pinot noir grapes. The site is planted to some of our favorite clones; Pommard and Dijon 115, and is composed of classic Goldridge soils, renowned for producing spectacular Pinot noir grapes.

2017 started with a wet spring, encouraging healthy vine growth and required diligent canopy management. We enjoyed mostly mild daytime temperatures and cool nights throughout the summer season, then found ourselves in a Labor day heat spike, though it had little effect on the fruit, allowing us time to pick at optimal ripeness. Thankfully all our Pinot Noir had been harvested and was happily fermenting in the winery when the crazy October fires swept through the area.

We picked the grapes at Sadie's Vineyard on September 13th. The stems were well lignified, so we included 25% as a whole cluster component. The grapes were sorted and the rest destemmed, then rested until an ambient fermentation took off about a week after harvest. The fermentation, along with frequent punch-downs, went to completion a week later, when the fermenter was sealed up for an extended maceration. About forty days after picking, the tank was drained, the remaining grapes were pressed, and the wine was barreled, using barrels from five different coopers to help add layers of complexity; Marcel Cadet, Remond, François Frères, Dargaud et Jaeglé, and Rousseau. Malolactic fermentation occurred in barrel and the wine remained un racked until just before blending and bottling.

Tasting Notes

Notes of blackberry, licorice, Asian spice, citrus rind, boysenberry and mineral waft from this zingy, lively vintage of Sadie's vineyard! The palate is quite yummy and juicy with notes of raspberry, root beer, spices, plum, charcoal, red-wood bark and blueberry muffins. This Pinot is beautifully balanced with super-fine-grained tannins, an intense, concentrated body and an extremely long, lingering savory finish.

Details

Vineyard planted in: 2009

Vineyard elevation: 70' above sea level

Vine density: 1245 vines per acre

Clones/selections: Pommard, Dijon 115

pH: 3.86

Titrateable acidity: 5.7 g/L

Alcohol: 14.4% by volume

Yield: 2.4 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 20 months, 62% new French oak

13 barrels; 316 cases produced