



TALISMAN

2019 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 Log

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.

The 2019 growing season started a week or two later than usual with a wet spring, then followed by cool temperatures that allowed the grapes to mature gradually and develop full flavors with fresh acidity and superb balance.

The fruit at Weir Vineyard was harvested September 27, just a little later than most years and perfectly in keeping with the slightly late start to the growing season. The cool season allowed us to use a slightly higher percentage of whole clusters, so nearly 30% of the fruit was loaded into the fermenter without destemming. Our native yeasts were a bit slow to start off and it was ten days before we saw signs of an active fermentation. It was another ten days before the yeast completed its task and we were able to seal the fermenter for an extended maceration. Forty-two days after picking, we finally drained the fermenter and pressed, then went to barrel the next day. The wine was aged in barrels from our five favorite coopers for twenty months and was racked the first and only time just prior to bottling. The wine received slightly over two years of bottle age before release.

Tasting Notes

Violets and orange zest welcome you to another enchanting vintage of Weir Pinot Noir; this vineyard is such a gift...there's deep blackberry fruit, boysenberry, rhubarb, tiny wild plums, baking spice and red fruits. There's a tiny bit of briny vanilla, blueberries and raspberries and a slight salinity like the finest seaweed from the finest of sushi restaurants. It's medium bodied with very fine-grained polished tannins, so mouthwatering and persistent... This wine is rustic and elegant all at once, but it's all tucked in the background so it sneaks up on you with a whisper, then continues with a delicate but very persistent, lingering finish. You won't want this to end.

Details

Vineyard planted in: 1992

Elevation: 850-1000

Vine density: 908 vines per acre

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

Rootstock: 5C

pH: 3.74

Titrateable acidity: 5.9 g/L

Alcohol: 14.6 % by volume

Yield: 2.6 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 19 months, 64% new French oak

11 barrels / 273 cases made