



Francis Ford Coppola
DIRECTOR'S CUT

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2013 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR



“Winemaking and filmmaking are two great art forms that are very important in the development of California. They both start with raw ingredients—in the case of wine, the land and the grapes, and in the case of film, the script and the actors’ performances. The winemaker takes these raw materials and ferments and blends. He says yes to one batch, no to another. The director does the same thing: a series of yeses and nos, from casting and costuming to edits and sound mixes. In both cases you have to start with top notch raw materials—whether it’s the land or a script.”—Francis Ford Coppola

FILMMAKING AND WINEMAKING INTERSECT IN SONOMA

In the film business, the “Director’s Cut” emerged as a means for filmmakers to present their own creative vision of a story. At the Francis Ford Coppola Winery, *Director’s Cut* wines were created as a way for wine “director” Corey Beck to craft wines that would reflect his own unique interpretation of the quintessential Sonoma wine. Corey’s vision for *Director’s Cut* embraces appellation-specific sourcing, meticulous fruit selection, and numerous blending trials so that our wines capture the distinct nuances of Sonoma’s microclimates

in a highly refined style well-suited to fine cuisine and premium wine lists.

RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

The Russian River Valley climate is defined by a regular intrusion of cooling fog from the Pacific Ocean a few miles to the west. Much like the tide, the fog ebbs and flows, arriving each evening, cooling the area down from its daytime temperatures by as much as 35 to 40 degrees. This natural air conditioning provides for an extended growing season where the grapes mature slowly for optimal development and maintain a good level of natural acidity. The Russian River Valley’s loam and alluvial soil compositions create a very rich and fragrant Pinot Noir that offers pronounced floral notes and a distinct earthy character.

VINTAGE PROFILE

On the heels of a great year, 2013 also presented ideal growing conditions, giving us two excellent vintages in a row. With little rain and no temperature extremes, our grapes ripened steadily and developed great concentration, excellent texture and balance, and dark, luscious fruit flavors, partly because the grape clusters and berries were smaller than average. We also got extra hangtime, harvesting a week and a half later than the year before.

WINEMAKER’S NOTES

After the grapes are pressed, we utilize open-top fermenters and punch the cap down several times a day for extraction. When fermentation is complete, the wine is placed in a combination of new and used French oak barrels; racking occurs several times throughout the maturation process. Our 2013 Pinot Noir boasts a rich, velvety texture, good structure, and complex aromatics reminiscent of cherries, violets, and star anise. Deep, dark flavors of black plums and wild strawberries emerge along with nuances of Chai spices, tea leaves, and bergamot, creating a really sensuous and fragrant wine.

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Alcohol: 13.8%

Barrel regimen: 9 months in French oak, 40% new and 60% 1 & 2 year old barrels