

AMERICAN WINES
SINCE 1835



VIRGINIA DARE 2015 RUSSIAN RIVER PINOT NOIR

History

Located in Sonoma County's Geyserville, Virginia Dare Winery celebrates the myths, people, places and history that shaped American winemaking. The story of the Virginia Dare Winery began with North Carolina's first commercial winery, Medoc Vineyard, which opened in 1835. Two businessmen, known as the Garrett brothers, purchased the property in 1865 calling it Garrett & Company. They began producing the Virginia Dare label, which quickly became one of the nation's top selling wines. The Family Coppola has revived the vintage charm of the original line, building exquisite new wines worthy of carrying forward Virginia Dare's legacy. We use varietals known to thrive in California soils, combined with contemporary winemaking techniques and the classic American spirit that Virginia Dare represents.

The Virginia Dare Showcase Wines are inspired by Virginia Dare herself. Born in 1587 to English parents in the Lost Colony of Roanoke, Virginia's story is linked to the myth of the White Doe and the origins of wine in America.

Vintage Notes

2015 not only marks the fourth consecutive season of exceptional fruit quality in California, but also saw the earliest harvest on record. Early bud break and persistent dry conditions coupled to form a lighter than normal crop. Excellent weather throughout the growing season along with lower yields resulted in fruit with intense concentration and beautiful aromatic qualities.

Winemaker Notes

The distinct qualities that make the Russian River Valley an ideal viticulture environment include a unique combination of powdery clay soils, varying temperatures along the river basin, and a nightly incursion of fog, which creates a cooling effect that helps the fruit retain its natural acidity. Fruit from the warmer zones of the valley offer plum and blueberry flavors, whereas fruit grown in the cooler regions provides structure and red fruit flavors such as cherries and strawberries. When blended together we achieve a wine of complexity and character.

Tasting Notes

Juicy impressions of berry and spice notes reflect the warmth of this vintage. The palate offers density and a velvety texture enhanced by supple tannins. A beautiful aroma of black and red raspberries, sandalwood and lavender is followed by succulent flavors of cherry, wild strawberry, clove, and vanilla bean—all of which stretch out on a long, luxurious finish.

Winemaking Analysis

APPELLATION: Russian River Valley, Sonoma County, California	ALCOHOL: 13.9%	BARREL REGIMEN: 10 months in French oak
BLEND: 100% Pinot Noir	pH: 3.69	WINEMAKER: Sandy Walheim
	TA: 0.59 g/100ml	

