



THE FIRST SPARKLING WINERY IN CARNEROS

2017 Rust Rock Vineyard Pinot Noir

The Carneros pinot noir from our Circle Bar Ranch property shows highly distinctive characteristics vintage after vintage. The outstanding flavors and textural qualities of this unique terroir prompted us to create this exclusive single-lot bottling. Comprised of shallow, rocky, volcanic soils, our Rust Rock vineyard produces top-rated wines with elegant fruit characteristics.

COMPOSITION: 100% Pinot Noir
AGING: 9 months in French Oak
APPELLATION: Carneros
ALCOHOL: 14.5%
TA: 0.58 g/mL
PH: 3.72
CASE PRODUCTION: 500



TASTING NOTES:

A beautiful deep garnet color with aromas of cherry pie and earthy loam. Red then dark fruit lands on the palate leading to lush tones of plum, black cherry with a hint of anise and some nice minerality in the finish.

VINTAGE NOTES:

The spring of 2017 brought record rainfall to break the six year drought parching California. The late rains provided plenty of water to the vines for a vigorous start to the growing season. Harvest began about 10 days earlier than average. Heat spikes during harvest created some anxiety, but we had the grapes harvested before the peak of the heat. We were able to pick all of the grapes at their optimum ripeness.

WINEMAKING PROCESS:

Individual vineyard lots were hand picked, destemmed, partially crushed and cold-soaked for 2 days to extract color and flavors. Three times per day they are on a punchdown or pumpover schedule, tailored to each lot to extract the fruit characters. The wine is then aged for 9 month in 100% French oak with 37% new oak barrels.

FOOD PAIRINGS:

To enhance the beautiful aromas and tart fruit flavors that Rust Rock has to offer, create a grazing board with some Truffle Tremor and Sheep's milk ricotta, dried cranberries, cherries and pomegranate seeds. For your main course try mushroom ragu over some creamy blue cheese polenta. Finish with a cinnamon pavlova with spiced ginger peaches to enhance all the spicy fruitiness of this Carneros pinot.

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