

# ARISTA

## 2017 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR

*Sonoma County*

### VINEYARD NOTES

The Russian River Valley blend represents the unique characteristics of the appellation that set it apart from other growing regions. This wine is defined by its rich weight and texture and by the dark fruit profile commonly associated with the Russian River Valley. The wine is assembled using select lots from our Westside Road Estate Vineyard as well as selections from the Toboni, Lucky Well, and Mononi Vineyards. We use no de-classified wine or "filler" vineyards for this appellation blend. Instead, this wine is viewed as a blend of our single vineyard and estate wines and is an excellent survey of the vintage and appellation each year.

### WINEMAKING

Cold grapes arrive at the winery early in the morning after having been picked at night. The clusters are sorted by hand and then destemmed into small, open-top fermenters. The juice is allowed to warm gradually and naturally in the fermenter. Given that all of the wines are made with native yeasts and are not inoculated, this cold-soak period can vary between 5-8 days depending on how long it takes these native populations to build up and begin fermentation. Pinot Noir fermentations are kept below 85 degrees. The wines always go through malolactic fermentation. The wines then spend the next 11 months in barrel, and the wine is racked clean just prior to bottling.

### TASTING NOTES

The 2017 Russian River Valley Pinot Noir is a fresh, vibrant example of wines from the appellation in a great vintage. With a beautiful dark, translucent, garnet color, the wine invites the taster in. One is greeted by a nose of cool blue fruits, Herbes de Provence, black olive, spiced candy, and damp forest floor. A modest 20% new French oak frames a core of crunchy red fruit on the palate. The wine possesses great length with tangy acidity, and finishes with an herbal note and grippy tannins that marry pleasantly with the fruit and help carry the long finish. Peak drinking window: 2019 through 2026.

### TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Vineyard Sources: Toboni, Lucky Well, Mononi, Arista Estate Vineyard  
Clonal Composition: Heritage Selections of Swan, Calera, and various Dijon Clones  
Aging: 11 months in barrel  
Unfined, unfiltered



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*Sonoma County, California*

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