



# WAYFARER

## 2014 PINOT NOIR GOLDEN MEAN

### TASTING NOTES

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Our Golden Mean Pinot Noir celebrates a union between the Swan clone, with its elegance and enticing perfume, and the Pommard clone, with its earthy aromatics and powerful structure. This ruby-hued wine begins with delicate floral notes that lead into bright red fruit aromas with hints of powdered cocoa and the suggestion of an ocean breeze. On the palate, fresh strawberry and cherry characters are supported by soft tannins and well-structured slate minerality. Balanced acidity makes this an easy food pairing wine—it's ready to enjoy upon release, and will age beautifully for another 10-15 years.

### VINTAGE NOTES

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The 2014 season started as one of the earliest on record, well before the threats of late winter frosts had passed. Fortunately, the tender buds and shoots escaped without damage and we relaxed into an exceptionally nice spring and cool summer. The gentle pace of the growing season gave us time for meticulous canopy management; we farm each of our 30 blocks individually to tailor the shoot positioning and leafing vine by vine, and clone by clone. Such fine-tuned farming is critical to success on the extreme Sonoma Coast, particularly for our vineyard with its great diversity of clones planted at varying elevations and exposures – east facing, west facing, north side, and south side. By the end of the growing season we have typically visited each vine a dozen times.

Our 2014 wines exhibit a pronounced minerality, due in part to our Goldridge soil and sandstone mother rock, as well as cold spells throughout the year. These wines are very open and generous right out of the bottle, with soft tannins, great acidity, and a slightly higher pH than previous vintages.

### WINEMAKING NOTES

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In the pre-dawn hours, the fruit was hand-picked and hand-sorted with 14% reserved for whole-cluster fermentation. We de-stemmed and hand-sorted again, before transferring the berries to tank where five to seven days of cold maceration preceded more than two weeks of 100% native yeast fermentation. The fruit was then gently pressed, its free-run juice was transferred to 55% new French oak barrels for 15 months of aging.

### ACCLAIM

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“Dark, brooding cinnamon and fleshy black plum provide an exciting, complex counterpoint to the rakish earthiness and exotic Asian spice going on in this full-bodied, explosively compelling wine, its minerality lingering. It's young and still tightly coiled, with lingering minerality; let it open to enjoy now, but it would show best after some time, so cellar through 2024.” 97 points, Virginie Boone, Wine Enthusiast, September, 2016

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ORIGIN	Wayfarer Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview, Sonoma Coast
ELEVATION	1,100 feet
SOIL	100% Goldridge
BLOCKS	5, 20, 22, 24, 26a
CLONES	Pommard 4, Pommard 5, Swan
WINEMAKER	Bibiana González Rave
PRUNING	Double guyot
VINE YIELD	Less than 3 pounds per vine
HARVESTED	September 3 - 11, 2014
BOTTLED	December 17, 2015
COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.68
PRODUCTION	500 cases

