



WAYFARER

2016 PINOT NOIR GOLDEN MEAN

TASTING NOTES

Our Golden Mean Pinot Noir combines the elegant perfume of the Swan clone with the earthy aromatics and powerful structure of the Pommard clone. Deep ruby in color, this wine offers delicate dried rose and potpourri aromas, as well as notes of dark chocolate and forest floor—lifted by the barest hints of seabreeze and salinity. The palate has a juicy entry, with flavors of ripe strawberry, pomegranate, and maraschino cherry balanced by good acidity and supported by well-integrated tannins. A hint of powdery mocha rounds out the lingering finish. Enjoy upon release or over the next 10-15 years.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2016 vintage showcases elegance and purity of fruit, as the growing season shifted to a more normal timeframe after the previous three vintages had an early start. The growing season started off with above-normal temperatures that eased into more moderate June weather. The last days of August and first of September marked a minor heat spell, that brought the vines out of their slow, methodical ripening. When the temperatures increased, extra care was taken by the vineyard team and our multiple passes through the vineyard paid off—we harvested each block of our Wayfarer Vineyard at peak ripeness, for wines with vibrant fruit and balanced acidity.

WINEMAKING NOTES

In the pre-dawn hours, the fruit was hand-picked and hand-sorted. 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 60% new French oak barrels for 15 months of aging.

ACCLAIM

“The 2016 Pinot Noir Golden Mean comes mostly from the Swan clone yet includes plenty of Pommard as well. The cuvée comes from two parcels in the estate vineyard, is cofermented (with around 10% whole cluster), and spent 15 months in 67% new French oak. It offers a more black fruited style with a huge nose of black cherries, scorched earth, charcoal, and just a hint of exotic flowers. Medium-bodied, rich, and structured, it’s another wine that builds with time in the glass. Give bottles 2-3 years and enjoy over the following decade.” 95+ points. Jeb Dunnuck, JebDunnuck.com.

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2016 **PINOT NOIR** GOLDEN MEAN

ORIGIN	Wayfarer Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview, Sonoma Coast
BLOCKS	20, 22, 24, 26a
CLONES	Pommard 4, Pommard 5, Swan
WINEMAKER	Bibiana González Rave
PRUNING	Double guyot
VINE YIELD	Less than 3 pounds
HARVESTED	September 8 - 19, 2016
BOTTLED	December 11, 2017
ALCOHOL	14.4%
pH	3.61
PRODUCTION	130 cases

