



WAYFARER

2012 PINOT NOIR THE TRAVELER

TASTING NOTES

The soulful expression of a single “suitcase clone”, The Traveler pays homage to the legendary journey of the original vine cutting from Burgundy’s most revered vineyard. Deep ruby red in hue, the nose on this wine opens gently with fresh floral notes of lavender and violet segueing to blackberry, boysenberry, cranberry and raspberry. Exceptionally focused, the structure is elegant with fine-grained tannins that present grip and finesse in concert. With time in the glass, the wine blooms and deepens, displaying notes of wild red berries, roasted nuts and vanilla bean while sustaining its bright acidity. The intriguing finish lingers long with minerality and ringing aromatics. This focused, complex wine invites further aging to fully reveal its remarkable eloquence and power.

VINTAGE NOTES

The 2012 growing year began with average rainfall and steady, moderate temperatures. A mild spring led to a warm, dry summer, providing ideal conditions for vine growth. Our vineyard crew worked diligently to control vigor and manage the leaf canopy to ensure well-formed, consistent clusters by early summer. Veraison occurred in early August. Mid to late-summer temperatures never spiked, allowing the fruit to ripen slowly and steadily – the hallmark of a great vintage. We harvested Block 18 on September 28, when the fruit achieved both ideal aromatic maturity and physiological development. The length and depth of tannins, in combination with amazing natural acidity, allowed for significant whole-cluster fermentation.

WINEMAKING NOTES

We hand-picked and hand-sorted the fruit, reserving 22% for whole-cluster fermentation prior to de-stemming. The remaining berries were de-stemmed and hand-sorted again before transfer to tank. 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 transferred to 63% new French oak barrels for 15 months of aging.

ACCLAIM

"A DRC-like bouquet of forest floor, black raspberries and spring flowers jumps from the glass of the dense ruby/purple-tinged Pinot. Made from an undeclared single suitcase clone (based on the aromatics, it appears the grapes originally came from the village of Vosne-Romanée). It is a sensational, medium to full-bodied, expansive, savory, complex, intense Pinot to consume over the next 10-12 years." 95 points. Robert Parker, Wine Advocate, December 2014

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ORIGIN	Wayfarer Vineyard, Fort Ross-Seaview, Sonoma Coast
BLOCK	18
CLONE	Wayfarer
WINEMAKER	Bibiana González Rave
PRUNING	Double guyot
VINE YIELD	Less than 3 pounds
HARVESTED	September 28, 2012
BOTTLED	December 20, 2013
RELEASE	Spring 2015
COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
ALCOHOL	14.5%
pH	3.56
TA	6.2 g/l
PRODUCTION	170 cases

