



RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS



2009 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR ESTATE VINEYARDS

WINEMAKER	Rick Sayre
ALCOHOL	14.5%
TA	0.50gm/100ml
PH	3.62
APPELLATION	Russian River Valley, Sonoma County
BLEND	96% pinot noir, 4% syrah
CELLAR & FERMENTATION	6 months in 100% French oak barrels

HISTORY

Rod Strong was among the first modern wine pioneers with a vision to plant pinot noir in the Russian River Valley. In 1968 he planted our heritage River East Vineyard in the alluvial clay-loam soils adjacent to the winery in Healdsburg. Today the Russian River Valley is well established as one of the premier pinot noir growing regions in the world, and we continue to rely on the original River East Vineyard as a core contributor to our estate vineyard bottling.

IN THE VINEYARDS

For the third year in a row, the 2009 vintage started off with a dry spring, which typically produces smaller clusters, smaller berries, and less canopy overall. Spring was mild enough to ward off frost this year, and vines affected from the previous year seemed to rebound. The main growing season was cool to warm and without incident. Picking commenced at the beginning of September, and all of our pinot noir was harvested by September 23rd.

TASTING NOTES

Supple in texture, with rose petal and red fruit aromas, this lively, medium bodied wine is aged entirely in small French oak barrels, which adds a subtle, toasty vanilla character and a hint of spice. Ideal for current enjoyment, this pinot noir will hold nicely over the next 2 to 4 years.

