



RODNEY STRONG VINEYARDS



2010 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR ESTATE VINEYARDS

WINEMAKER	Rick Sayre
ALCOHOL	14.5%
TA	0.56gm/100ml
PH	3.58
APPELLATION	Russian River Valley, Sonoma County
CELLAR & FERMENTATION	11 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

The 2010 vintage started with a cool and fairly wet spring that remained mostly frost free. The late rains generated a healthy canopy, but one that required careful management to avoid green flavors. The cool spring evolved into an exceptionally cool summer, punctuated by a three day heat spike in August which reduced yields in many varieties. September started out warm and ended the same way, giving us the ripeness we were waiting for, and we harvested the last of our Russian River pinot noir on October 7th.

TASTING NOTES

Soft and silky, with intriguing floral and crushed pomegranate aromas, this medium bodied wine was aged for 11 months in small French oak barrels, which added a hint of toasty vanilla and spice complexity. Ideal for current enjoyment, this pinot noir will hold nicely over the next 2 to 4 years.

