

2009 La Pommeraie Pinot Noir, Russian River Valley



Harvest Notes

The Russian River Valley experienced its third successive drought in the winter of 2008 and spring of 2009. The colder than average temperatures in spring pushed the season back by almost three weeks at flowering and fruit set. The summer was cool and dry with low mildew and rot pressure. Temperatures warmed in July and August, helping to create a very even verasion and setting the stage for a great vintage. Yields were below average and the stressed vines produced grapes with exceptional color, vibrant acidity, and balance. We are very excited about the 2009 vintage—it may be our best yet!

Winegrower Notes

This spectacular Martinelli vineyard sits along Laguna Ridge at the edge of the Green Valley AVA. Meticulously farmed and planted at a very high density of 2,420 vines per acre, the vineyard is planted to Dijon Pinot Noir clones 777 and 828. Once a spectacular apple orchard, we pay homage to the Martinelli Family and the history of the site by naming the wine 'La Pommeraie'—French for apple orchard.

Tasting Notes

This extraordinary single vineyard Pinot Noir gives an immediate impression of depth and concentration in the glass, with remarkably explosive aromas of boysenberry and black cherry. The palate is viscous and rich, yet light on its feet, with fine-polished tannins and exceptionally balanced acidity. Although delicious upon release, we expect this wine to improve with cellaring for six to eight years from the vintage date.

Vineyard Sources

George Martinelli, Frei Road Vineyard

Harvest Data

September 3, 2009 | Alcohol 14.1% | pH 3.65 | TA 0.57

Fermentation

Cold soaked for ten days, with indigenous yeast fermentation lasting almost three weeks

Cooperage

Aged 16 months in French oak (48% new)

Bottling

March 23, 2011

Cases Produced

396 cases

Release Date

August 2011