

JOSEPH SWAN VINEYARDS

2916 LAGUNA ROAD, FORESTVILLE, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY.
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2005 Pinot Noir - Great Oak Vineyard-Russian River Valley

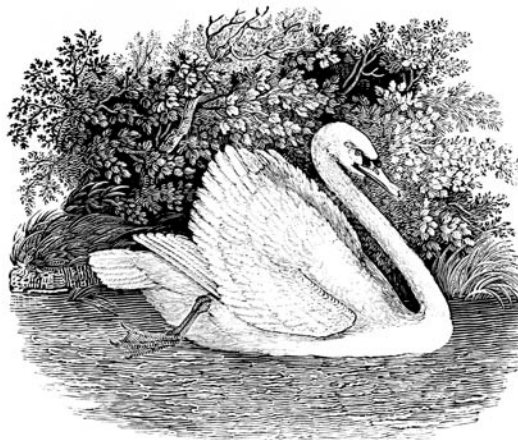
THE VINEYARD:

The vineyard is located in the hills above the Russian River north of Forestville. Several different clones of pinot noir are planted on Franciscan derived soils interspersed with fractured shale and sandstone. There are a total of 5 small blocks of pinot noir scattered across the 46 acres of this very steep and hilly property. The densely planted vines are trained in a vertical curtain system. The very poor rocky soils and low low production clones result in crop levels that are among the lowest for pinot noir anywhere. Due to low crop levels and slightly warmer temperatures than on the valley floor, this is usually our first pinot noir vineyard harvested.

2005

Great Oak Vineyard
Russian River Valley

Pinot Noir



Joseph Swan Vineyards

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY JOSEPH SWAN VINEYARDS
FORESTVILLE CALIFORNIA, ALCOHOL 14.5% BY VOLUME

WINEMAKING:

Each block of the vineyard is harvested separately as it reaches maturity. Each lot is then fermented and aged separately. Fifteen to twenty percent of each lot is left as whole clusters with the balance de-stemmed into open top fermenters. Wild yeast fermentation ensued after a 3 day cold soak. The cap was punched by hand three times per day during the peak fermentation to extract color and flavor and to control fermentation temperature. After an average of 25 days on the skins the wine was pressed off, settled briefly and then racked to French Burgundy barrels for 11 months of aging before selection, blending and bottling. The wine is unfinned and unfiltered.

THE WINE:

The different blocks produce wines ranging from dark, almost syrah-like wine, to much more aromatic and spice driven wines. To capture what we believe is the true essence of the vineyard as a whole, only a portion of the overall production is blended for the vineyard wine, with the balance contributing structure and depth to our Cuvée de Trois. The '05 is all about dark fruit. Black raspberry, black cherry, dark plum, licorice and cassis. There is also an element, best described as wild, present; even so, it is quite elegant. It is rich and powerful yet has a grace to it as well. It should cellar well for quite a few years. 140 cases bottled.