JOSEPH SWAN VINEYARDS 2916 LAGUNA ROAD, FORESTVILLE, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY. SONOMA COUNTY, CA 95436 PHONE 707.573.3747 www.SwanWinery.com

2015 Pinot Noir - Cuvée de Trois - Russian River Valley

THE VINEYARDS:

The vineyards for this wine are all located in the heart of the Russian River Valley, approximately 15-18 miles from the Pacific Ocean. They represent a variety of soil types, viticultural practices and clonal selections, but each carries the overiding characteristics of the best of the Russian River Valley. The blend varies from year to year. This year it includes wine from our Trenton Estate Vineyard, DNA, Trenton View, Saralee's, Catie's Corner, Ritchie, Solas, and Great Oak.



WINEMAKING:

This wine was produced from a mulitiplicity of clones of pinot noir. Each block of each vineyard was harvested and fermented separately. Fifteen to twenty percent of each lot was left as whole clusters with the balance de-stemmed into open top fermenters. 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 21 days on the skins, the wine was pressed off, settled briefly and then racked to French Burgundy barrels for 10 months of aging before selection, blending, and bottling. Each barrel of each lot was individually tasted and numerous blending trials were conducted before the final blend was decided upon. Only then did the wine receive its first racking as it was assembled for bottling, unfined and unfiltered. The production in 2015 was just over 1200 cases. 13.6%ABV.

THE WINE:

The primary goal in bottling this wine is to produce a pinot noir that speaks of the terroir of the Russian River Valley as a whole and best reflects the character of the vintage. Very intense red, dark cherry, raspberry on the nose. Dark plum on the palate, smooth tannins, long finish. Serious wine! It is long, rich and well balanced. Like all of the Cuvée de Trois blends, the emphasis is on creating a wine that drank well upon release but one that is surely capable of rewarding some cellaring.