

JOSEPH SWAN VINEYARDS

2916 LAGUNA ROAD, FORESTVILLE, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY.
SONOMA COUNTY, CA 95436 PHONE 707 573 3747 www.SwanWinery.com

2015 Pinot Noir - Great Oak Vineyard - Russian River Valley

THE VINEYARD:

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.

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 just 24 hours of a “natural” 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 almost three weeks 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:

Aromas of dark red, almost wild cherry fruit, with a hint of lavender. In the mouth there is a brightness balancing its considerable richness before its long yet zingy finish. The flavors follow from the nose and while it exudes plenty of body, its tannins and acidity keep it freshly in balance.

197 Cases Produced

