



2005 PINOT NOIR, McDUGALL VINEYARD

This is a small seven acre vineyard located in what is known as the 'golden triangle' of the Sonoma Coast. This vineyard is perched on a small bench high up above the Pacific Ocean on a steep south slope. The intensity and pedigree of this vineyard is hard to match. We were lucky to stumble upon this vineyard when renowned vintner, David Hirsch mentioned that there may be a small chance the McDougalls were looking for another winemaker to crush some of their grapes from this revered coastline. After meeting with these 'old school' Scottish farmers, which felt more like a first date, we walked away with a firm handshake and a big smile. After the first crush of these grapes our hunch was right. This might be one of the most exciting and profound wines I've ever made and we are thrilled to have it in the portfolio.

Magenta color. Full bodied Pinot Noir. Very exciting nose, full of exotic and wild dark fruits, blood red plum and sweet earth. The attack on the palate is just as exciting with lifted notes of ripe Bing cherry, perfume and floral undercurrents that cascade all across the palate at once. This wine has a wonderful structure of plush tannins and very balanced acidity that are in line with just the right amount of fruit weight. On the long finish, the wine is dark, soft and polished with varietal undertones of rose petals and cherry pie with a hint of minerality and sweet earth.

Harvest Data

Vineyard: 100% McDougall Vineyard
Harvest Date: September 26, 2005
Sugars: 25.7 degrees brix
pH: 3.46
T.A.: 7.9 grams/Liter
Oak: 100% French Oak for 11 months
50% new French Oak
50% seasoned French Oak

Other: Stem retention, 2 day cold soak, 12 days on skins

Finished Wine

pH: 3.64
T.A.: 6.8 g/L
Alcohol: 14.8% by vol.
Bottling Date: August 2006
Release Date: February 2007
Suggested Retail: \$50 per bottle
Number of Cases: 75 cases

Vineyard Technical Notes

T/Acre: 1.3 tons per acre
Variety: Pinot Noir
Clone: 114
Rootstock: 3309
Planted: 1998
Spacing: 8 x 5 (high density) (1340 vines/acre)
Trellis: Vertical Shoot Position
Pruning: Spur Pruned
Orientation: Rows run NW - SE
Slope: Gentle
Aspect: Southwest
Soil: Sandy clay loam