



2014 Pinot Noir

Branciforte Creek Vineyard

Vineyard: Branciforte Creek Vineyard

Appellation: Santa Cruz Mountains

Wine: 100% Pinot Noir - Alcohol: 12.8%

Production: 303 cases

French, Hungarian and inert barrels for 18 months
Wine is unfinned and unfiltered

Branciforte Creek Vineyard is located on Jarvis Road in the Vine Hill area of the Santa Cruz Mountains, just a mile away from our well-known Estate Vineyard on the same road. The vines were planted in 1988 in a site that originally had grapes since 1863. This vineyard has low yields of very flavorful fruit year after year.

This vineyard represents the best of “old school” Pinot Noir, before all of those cola-cherry focused “modern” clones became so popular. This vineyard is Pommard Clone, a clone that results in a more traditional, Burgundian take on the variety. You don’t just get lots of cherry/berry fruit – you get all kinds of intriguing back flavors and aromas. Things like dried leaves, damp earth, warming spices and fennel can be found in layers behind and around the fruit.

The 2014 vintage is one that expresses accessible fruit right away. But it then develops many layers of savory and spicy complexities to go with the fruit. Decant ahead of time if drinking sooner, or lay it down for a few years and it will become more and more complex. We are still drinking Pinot Noirs from our original Estate Vineyard nearby on the same mountain. We believe that, if cellared properly, this wine can go three of four decades in the bottle.

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