



Lolita Ranch Pinot Noir

Russian River Valley

2011

Vineyard Character

The Lolita Ranch is located on Martinelli Road in Forestville. The property once adjoined the original Martinelli Homestead Ranch, belonging to Giuseppe & Luisa Martinelli. Giuseppe & Luisa had purchased the steep, forested landscape in the late 1800's and then later sold this particular section to a neighbor. Eventually it passed on to Bob and Lolita Young, who ran a herd of Angus and Hereford cattle on the land for many years. Lee Martinelli Jr. and his wife Pamela acquired the property in 1999, returning it back to the Martinelli estate and to the family's continuing century-long legacy of viticulture. Lee Jr. planted the steep hillside with four different grape varieties; Chardonnay, Pinot Noir, Syrah, and Zinfandel.

Wine Statistics

The grapes are picked between 25 and 26 degrees brix to ensure mature ripe fruit flavors. After being picked the fruit undergoes a five day cold soak, for the early extraction of flavors and color, followed by a wild yeast fermentation that promotes greater character and depth when the wine matures. The grapes in the fermentation tank are pressed and the wine is barreled down un-racked while it is still fermenting, allowing it to better marry with the new French oak barrels. The wine completes the sugar and the malolactic fermentations in barrel and then ages on its gross lees for one year. Our Pinot Noirs usually do not require racking or aeration during aging. The wine is neither heat nor cold stabilized, it is un-fined and un-filtered, and is clarified only by racking before bottling.

Case Production: 272

Tasting Notes

The 2011 Lolita Ranch Pinot Noir has seductive aromas of rose petal and a smoky, spicy characteristic. Flavors include dark black cherry, cherry-cola, and pomegranate, with touch of nutmeg.

Historical Acclaim

2011 Vintage

- 92 points Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

2010 Vintage

- 94 points Antonio Galloni., The Wine Advocate
- 91 points Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer's International Wine Cellar

Winemaker: Bryan Kvamme

Consulting Winemaker: Erin Green