



Bella Vigna Pinot Noir
Russian River Valley
2013

Vineyard Character

The fruitful Russian River Valley is filled with Edens for growing Pinot Noir. Gardens of vinifera are dotted throughout this lush valley, resplendent in their supreme capability to produce exquisite wine. These delightful paradises are exactly where our vineyards have been planted. The Bella Vigna Pinot Noir is a select blend of some of these plantings.

Growing Year

The 2013 growing year was the second dry year in a row for us. We had an especially dry spring and it warmed up early, so the vines got an early jump on the season. Bloom came along in early May and the temperatures were perfect for berry pollination. The clusters ended up setting an abundance of berries. We had to do quite a bit of cluster thinning to maintain our desired crop levels and to get some sun light and air movement into the canopy. Harvest came early as well. Fortunately, we had cooler temps about midway through, which slowed down picking and allowed us to catch up on things - including sleep! Harvest was complete after 7-8 weeks.

Wine Statistics

The grapes are picked between 25 and 27 degrees brix to ensure mature ripe fruit flavors. After picking, the whole berries undergo a long cool fermentation with wild yeast, to generate skin contact and expose fruit character. The juice is transferred into oak barrels with a touch of residual sugar remaining to complete the fermentation process in barrel until dry. It rests in 70% new French oak on its gross lees for one year. The wine is neither heat nor cold stabilized, and is un-fined and un-filtered, clarified only by racking before bottling.

Case Production: 780

Tasting Notes

The 2013 Bella Vigna Pinot Noir has a mineral driven nose along with red fruits, vanilla, and bacon notes. On the palate there is lovely red cherry and tart raspberry and the finish is pure and clean with good length and strong cherry flavor.

Historical Acclaim

2012 Vintage

- 90 points. James Laube, The Wine Spectator

Winemaker: Bryan Kvamme

Consulting Winemaker: Erin Green