



**Bondi Home Ranch “Water Trough Vineyard” Pinot Noir  
Green Valley of Russian River Valley  
2013**

### **Vineyard Character**

A little known Eden for Burgundian varietals is the Green Valley appellation, which sits at the southernmost tip of the Russian River Valley. The cool breeze from the sea rises in the late afternoon, skimming along the distant bank of fog, relieving the vines from the afternoon heat, thus enhancing slower ripening. Lee Martinelli Sr. planted this vineyard in four separate blocks, establishing the Dijon clones onto a de-vigorating rootstock. The Clones are 115, 777, 667, 828 and Calera. Eastern exposure compliments the vines growth and promotes even ripening with all day sun.

### **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 sunlight 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 26 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 80% new French oak on its gross lees for one year. Being a particular and moody varietal to tamper with, the grapes, juice, and then wine are minimally handled. The finished wine is un-fined, un-filtered, neither cold nor heat stabilized, clarified only by racking before bottling.

Case Production: 658

### **Tasting Notes**

The 2013 Bondi Home Ranch Pinot Noir is weighty, complex, and lively, with a gorgeous nose loaded with an inter-mix of blue and red fruits, toast, and hints of tea leaves. Great power on the palate, with really expressive fruit flavors of spicy cherry and cola.

### **Historical Acclaim**

#### **2013 Vintage**

- 94 points Antonio Galloni, Vinous
- 93+ points Robert M Parker Jr., The Wine Advocate

#### **2012 Vintage**

- 94 points Robert M Parker Jr., The Wine Advocate
- 92 points Josh Reynolds, Stephen Tanzer’s International Wine Cellar

**Winemaker:** Bryan Kvamme

**Consulting Winemaker:** Erin Green