



TALISMAN

2015 Starscape Vineyard Pinot noir Russian River Valley

Talisman Winery is dedicated to the crafting of exquisite, soulful Pinot Noirs that are true to their roots and accurately reflect the terroir and personality of their vineyard of origin.

About the Talisman Logo

The Talisman logo is a stylized representation of a Native American medicine wheel. The elements of the medicine wheel represent the circle of life and the four directions, reminding us of our place in the universe. The rays around the medicine wheel represent the sun, which provides energy for life on Earth and ripens grapes, allowing us to revel in the pleasures of life, including fine wine.

Vineyards and Winemaking

Starscape Vineyard (previously named Floodgate and prior to that, Mark West Vineyard) is located on Trenton-Healdsburg Road on the southern end of an area known as the Middle Reach of the Russian River. The Middle Reach is arguably the most iconic area for Russian River Pinot noir. We source Dijon 777 and an old block of Pommard from a south-facing slope composed of Laniger loam soils. An East-facing slope is the home of a younger planting of Dijon 828, one of the more recent imports to California.

2015 was the fourth year of drought in California; the lack of winter rains so many years in a row resulted in very scant yields and thus, considerable concentration in the fruit. Weather during the growing season was wonderfully mild. Harvest was the earliest and fastest in recent memory.

The Dijon 777 and Pommard were co-fermented with a 25% whole cluster component. The Dijon 828 grapes were fermented by themselves. The fermentations were un-inoculated, relying on feral yeast and malolactic bacteria. Complexity was enhanced by the use of barrels from five different coopers. The wine was bottled unfined and unfiltered.

Tasting Notes

The beautiful deep garnet color lures you into this Pinot Noir's very complex bouquet of strawberry, white roses, sandalwood, rhubarb, peach, pomegranate, limestone, plum and white pepper. The palate is energetic and dense with flavors of rich red fruit, sarsaparilla, violets, brown spices, toffee, tart cherries, fresh herbs and prosciutto... this wine is velvety, fleshy and concentrated with hints of licorice and cherry cola; firm, well integrated tannins are begging for a steak or prime rib; this Pinot is intense and will continue to develop for many years to come.

Details

Clones/selections: Pommard, Dijon clones 777 and 828

pH: 3.63

Yield: 2.8 tons of grapes per acre

Titratable acidity: 5.6 g/L

Barrel aging: 19 months, 55% new French oak

Alcohol: 14.5%

267 cases produced