



TALISMAN

2019 Gunsalus 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

Pamela and Glen Gunsalus ("gun-say-lus") are always in their vineyard, located on a west-facing slope in the Green Valley of Russian River Valley appellation. These two former researchers have great intuition backed up by scientific rigor and it shows in the quality of their grapes.

The 2019 growing season started a week or two later than usual with a wet spring, then followed by cool temperatures that allowed the grapes to mature gradually and develop full flavors with fresh acidity and superb balance.

We've historically picked Gunsalus the first week of September, but the cool season delayed harvest until September 18. As usual, the winemaking was simple and straightforward – a slow soak until wild yeast began their work was followed by about a week of fermentation. Post-ferment, we sealed the fermenter for an extended maceration and pressed and barreled about 40 days after picking.

Tasting Notes

An enchanting minerally bouquet of rose petal, baking spice, oyster shell and ground white pepper are such a fun intro to the spunky flavors of cream soda, orange peel, black cherry with a tart berry brightness... the acidity is bright, the texture mouthwatering, fabulous structure, hints of dark cherries and plums and boysenberry, lots of interesting bass notes and bold tannins that soften on the back palate. This will develop tremendously over the next several years! Or just over dinner given a bit of air beforehand...

Details

Vineyard planted in: 2001

Vine spacing: 4' x 7'

Vine density: 1556 vines per acre

Clones/selections: Dijon clones 114, 115, 667 and 777

Rootstock: 101-14

Elevation: 170-300'

pH: 3.70

Titrateable acidity: 5.7 g/L

Alcohol: 14.6% by volume

Yield: 2.3 tons of grapes per acre

Barrel aging: 19 months, 46% new French oak

Harvested: September 18th

13 barrels / 323 cases made