



TALISMAN

2019 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.

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.

The slow ripening allowed us to pick all three clones September 22. We co-fermented them in a single fermenter utilizing our normal practice or including 25% of the grapes as a whole cluster component. Native yeast came to life after the grapes soaked for about one week. Punch downs were done a minimum of three times every day during the fermentation. After a post-fermentation maceration, we pressed the wine-laden skins, settled the wine overnight to remove the biggest solids, and aged the wine in French oak barrels where native bacteria completed the malolactic fermentation. Twenty-one months later we raked the wine out of the barrels and bottled it just for you! Nothing fancy – just straightforward, simple, honest winemaking. The less we do, the better the wine.

Tasting Notes

A lovely perfume of jasmine at first, then notes of dark plum, cranberry, rootbeer, mulchy forest floor and allspice. This wine is so interesting! Flavors of orange zest, dusty road and chocolate covered cherries grace the soft texture and wonderful mouthfeel of soft, fine-grained tannins.

Details

Clones/selections: Pommard, Dijon clones 777 and 828
Yield: 2.7 tons of grapes per acre
Harvested: Sept 6 (Pommard) & Sept 13 (777 & 828)
Year planted: 1997

pH: 3.68
Titratable acidity: 6.0 g/L
Alcohol: 14.5%
Barrel aging: 19 months, 57% new French oak

14 barrels / 347 cases produced