

# LYNMAR

*Russian River Valley*

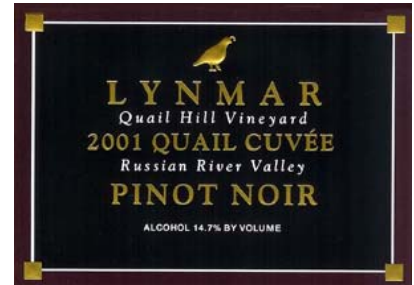
## 2001 QUAIL CUVÉE PINOT NOIR

### PHILOSOPHY

The “Quail Cuvée” pinot noir is a wine that reflects the vineyard site and house style while presenting a consistent wine from vintage to vintage. This wine is our primary production effort. The quality of this product is the first consideration of each and every vintage.

### 2001 GROWING SEASON

This vintage will, without a doubt, produce a number of blockbuster wines from the Russian River Valley. Its start, however, seemed to signal nothing but trouble. The year began with a dry winter, building up far less moisture in the soil than is typical. Spring delivered a late frost, but the growing season that followed was one that grapes love—uneventful to the point of being thoroughly forgettable. Rain clouds threatened as harvest neared, but we took a gamble and left the fruit on the vine to reach bolder, more mature flavors.



### THE BLEND

The Quail Cuvée program is most representative of our entire vineyard. This wine is comprised of 100% free-run juice. 2001 marks the second year that our young vine plantings have been blended into the Quail Cuvée melding wine from all of the original pinot blocks with free run juice from our Dijon clones and re-propagated Swan selection. The resulting wine is most reflective of Quail Hill's *terroir* with added complexity from clonal diversity.

### WINEMAKING

After several pickings from each individual block the grapes were hand sorted, de-stemmed and gravity fed into four-ton open-top fermentors. After cold soaking, the fermentation began with the addition of Montrachet yeast. Hand punching was done two to six times daily and the total time on the skins averaged 20 days. The juice was racked off to combine in new, one or two-year-old French oak with approximately 60% being new barrels. The wine rested in oak while undergoing malolactic fermentation and was racked just prior to bottling.

### TASTING NOTES

Our 2001 Quail Cuvée Pinot is a deep, dark, and inviting wine with captivating fragrance and classical *terroir* expression. In the nose, ripe dark fruit aromas of Bing cherry and plum are accented by more subtle red fruit notes of raspberry and strawberry jam. The flavors echo the aromas with further complex notes of smoke, orange rind, and an intriguing vanilla and clove spiciness weaving in and out of the long finish. The palate shows notable density and a firm acid backbone. Tannins are balanced with just enough grip to get you know the best is yet to come. Expect this wine to reward cellaring through at least 2005. Bottled without fining or filtration.

### WINE INFORMATION:

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|-----------------------|--|
| <i>Composition</i>    | 100% Pinot Noir                        |
| <i>Oak Aging</i>      | 12 months in 100% French Oak (60% new) |
| <i>Cases Produced</i> | 617 cases                              |
| <i>Release Date</i>   | February 2004                          |