

LYNMAR

Russian River Valley

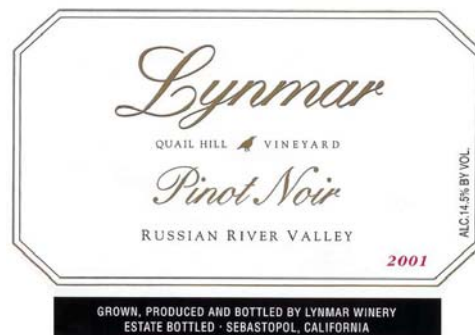
2001 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR

PHILOSOPHY

The “Russian River Valley” bottling is a fruit-forward wine that reflects the character of our appellation while exhibiting the influence of the estate, the Quail Hill Vineyard. Here, the Lynmar wines are composed of the vineyard blocks that show the most brilliant expression in each 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.



WINEMAKING

The 2001 ‘Russian River Valley’ is a single-vineyard Pinot Noir that comes from both our original QHV blocks dating back to 1974 and our maturing younger vines planted in 1995 and 1996. In selecting this blend, the winemaker looks for barrels expressing a ‘high tone’ pinot noir fruit character—bright fruit with lively acidity—with the intent to produce a medium bodied and balanced wine with excellent fruit complexity.

The winemaking starts in the vineyard where attention to detail is paramount if the wine is to be great. After several pickings from each individual block the grapes were hand sorted twice, de-stemmed and gravity fed into small 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 wine was then combined in both new and one-year-old French oak with approximately 30% being new barrels. The wine rested in oak while undergoing malolactic fermentation and further aged prior to bottling.

TASTING NOTES

The 2001 Russian River Pinot Noir is a beautifully dark, ruby-colored wine with complex aromas and flavors of black raspberry, cherry jam, roasted herb, vanilla and clove. The intriguing aromas and dense, sweet mouthfeel are knit together by centered acidity and a long, complex finish. Bottled without fining or filtration.

WINE INFORMATION:

<i>Composition</i>	100% Pinot Noir
<i>Oak Aging</i>	12 months in 100% French Oak (30% new)
<i>Cases Produced</i>	1,772 cases
<i>Release Date</i>	October 27, 2003
<i>T.A.</i>	5.68 g/l
<i>pH</i>	3.60