

LYNMAR

Russian River Valley

1999 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR

PHILOSOPHY

The philosophy of the “RRV” bottling is to blend a wine to reflect the character of the appellation while exhibiting the influence of our estate, Quail Hill Vineyard. The 1999 vintage captures the Lynmar style of elegance and finesse while showing weight and extraction unique to the year.

1999 GROWING SEASON

This year is the second vintage in a row with long hang time and intense varietal character. The vintage at Quail Hill Vineyard was later than traditional norms and was pushed together by nine days of unseasonably warm weather. With no rest for the weary pickers and winery staff, our pinot harvest was spanned over five days.

THE BLEND

The blend for the Lynmar Pinot is made with wine from our maturing young vines, and is composed of both free run as well as the press juice fractions. The young vines and press juice contribute vibrant fruit aromas and flavors while the free run juice fills out the blend with depth and complexity.

WINEMAKING

The winemaking philosophy 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, de-stemmed and gravity fed into four-ton open-top fermentors. After cold soaking, the fermentation begins 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 is racked off to combine in new, one or two-year-old French oak. The wines rest in oak while undergoing malo-lactic fermentation. They were racked with preliminary blends created in the early spring.

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Ending with a nice long acid finish, the wine lingers and invites the next taste. Above all else, I place maximum importance on a wine's balance and this wine balances well from start to finish. Showing earth and tar with layers of emerging fruit, the aroma grows in the glass over time. As if compressed by the short harvest window, the wine uncoils nicely, upon release from the bottle, showing its Quail Hill pedigree.