

WATERSTONE

P. O Box 6979
Napa, California 94581

2011 PINOT NOIR CARNEROS

Vintage

The 2011 growing season proved to be a challenge in Napa Valley. A wet winter and spring extended with rainfall into mid-June, delaying bloom and set. A long, cool growing season followed, which forced growers to open canopies to ensure sunlight and warmth. Harvest was further hampered by autumn rain storms, which encouraged an earlier-than-normal harvest. Overall, quality of fruit is high, and lower alcohols are expected for the vintage.

Vineyard

The Pinot Noir grapes for this wine were grown in the Carneros region, where soils are dense, shallow, of low to moderate fertility, and high in clay content. While the soils lead to low yields, the region's maritime climate allows a longer growing season; the end result is balanced color, flavor and acidity in the harvested grapes. This Pinot Noir is produced from two vineyards: the Diamond Vineyard in central Carneros and the Truchard Vineyard in northeastern Carneros. Both vineyards are under long-term contracts, providing consistency from vintage to vintage.

Vinification

The grapes for this Pinot Noir were hand picked. After destemming, the grapes were whole-berry fermented in open-top fermenters, which were punched down manually to provide maximum flavor and minimum harsh tannins. Following fermentation, the wine was transferred to small French oak barrels for sixteen months. The barrels were 35% new and 65% used (2nd and 3rd year.) Prior to bottling, the wine received minimal filtration and fining to preserve the fresh berry flavors.

Tasting Notes

Dark plums, cherry, cola and leather are present in this wine's aroma. The soft vanilla tones from the oak blend perfectly with the intense fruit core and soft tannins, providing complexity and balance and leading to a lingering finish.



Technical Data:

Varietal Composition	100% Pinot Noir
Appellation	Carneros
Alcohol	13.7%
TA	0.56 g/100ml
pH	3.78
Oak Aging	16 months
Oak Cooperage	French oak, 35% new
Bottling Date	April 16, 2013
Production	868 cases



Philip Zorn, Winemaker