

WATERSTONE

P. O Box 6979
Napa, California 94581

2012 PINOT NOIR CARNEROS

Vintage

2012 proved to be a perfect growing season in Napa Valley. Near-ideal spring bud break, steady flowering, even fruit set and a lengthy stretch of warm days and cool nights provided textbook conditions for the vines. Optimum ripeness was easily achieved, bringing exceptional quality into the cellar. The wines are showing a smooth balance of acids and sugars, great depth of color, and beautiful aromatics. Yields were near-normal in quantity.

Vineyard

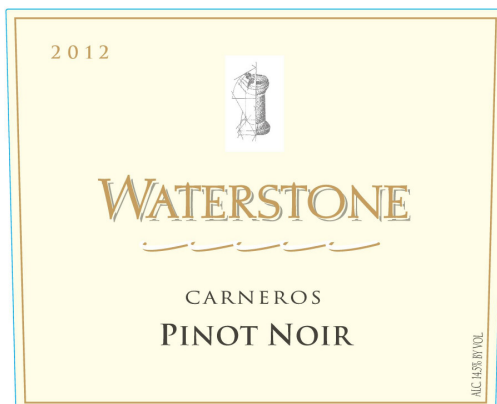
The Pinot Noir grapes for this wine were grown in the Carneros region, where soils are dense, shallow, of low to moderate fertility, and high in clay content. While the soils lead to low yields, the region's maritime climate allows a longer growing season; the end result is balanced color, flavor and acidity in the harvested grapes. This Pinot Noir is produced from three vineyards: the Diamond Vineyard in central Carneros, the Champlin Creek Vineyard in western Carneros, and the Truchard Vineyard in northeastern Carneros. All 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 thirteen 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	14.5%
TA	0.57 g/100ml
pH	3.80
Oak Aging	13 months
Oak Cooperage	French oak, 35% new
Bottling Date	December 13, 2013
Production	1360 cases



Philip Zorn, Winemaker