



2021 EnRoute Pinot Noir
Russian River Valley, “Les Pommiers”

TECHNICAL NOTES

Appellation: Russian River Valley

Varietal: 100% Pinot Noir

Harvest Dates: August 18 – September 28, 2021

Fermentation: 96% open-top stainless steel and 4% concrete Nomblot tanks

Aging: 10 months, 33% new French oak, 33%

one-time used, and 34% neutral

Release Date: TBD

Winemaker: Michael Acurso

Director of Winemaking: Andrew Delos

VINEYARD DESCRIPTION

Our Northern Spy Vineyard in Russian River Valley’s Green Valley AVA was an abandoned apple orchard that was groomed specifically for EnRoute. We are thrilled with the quality of the fruit coming from this site, which grows on the region’s famous Goldridge soils. Pommard 5, Mt. Eden, Swan, 2A and Dijon clones 115 and 777 are planted on 101-14 rootstock with 4 x 7 spacing in this vineyard. Our Amber Ridge Vineyard is located on rolling terrain in the upper Middle Reach area of the Russian River Valley. Planted with bilateral vertical trellising, the clonal mix includes Pommard 5, Calera and Dijon clones 115, 667 and 777 using 101-14 rootstock to limit vigor. Manzana Vineyard continues to play an important role in the Les Pommiers blend, with its hillside fruit planted in Green Valley to Dijon clones 114, 115 and Pommard 5.

HARVEST NOTES

The 2021 growing season was one of beautiful consistency. A dry winter and spring reduced yields across all of our Russian River Valley vineyards. Strong spring winds brought mild shatter to our vines during flowering; coupled with the dry conditions and minimal irrigation, grape yields were small and concentrated. A long, mild summer further added to the concentration and complexity of our fruit, and the moderate temperatures continued straight into the harvest season. The smaller crop load jump started the EnRoute harvest, and we began picking the Calera clone, block 5 Pinot Noir from our Amber Ridge Vineyard in early August. We picked our last Russian River vineyards, those planted in the cooler Green Valley region, on September 28. Across the board, our Pinot Noir possessed stunning depth, complexity and nuance. We expect this vintage to be one of the best on record for En Route.

SENSORY EVALUATION

This extraordinary vintage of Les Pommiers Pinot Noir offers balance, concentration and harmony. Delicate violet and ripe strawberry aromatics open onto a full, silky palate framed by seamless tannins and vibrant acidity. Notes of confectionary spice and toasted oak accents lead into a finish that is lovely and lifted.



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RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY