

MAGGY HAWK

ANDERSON VALLEY PINOT NOIR

Hawkster

2015

OVERVIEW

Adversity often brings greatness to Pinot Noir, the most difficult of grapes to master. Greatness also arises in champion racehorses, something proprietor Barbara Banke recognized and celebrates in the gifted Maggy Hawk, a winning thoroughbred honored with this Pinot Noir effort from the deep end of Mendocino's Anderson Valley, mere moments from the Pacific Ocean. Each wine in the series is named for a horse born to Maggy Hawk, extending her legacy to greater lengths, and to her sire, record-holder Hawkster.

HARVEST NOTES

As the fourth excellent harvest in a row in Northern California, 2015 can be defined as intense and short, with the earliest harvest recorded in many years. The intensity of this early harvest is mirrored in the concentration of the resulting wines. The fruit for Hawkster was harvested on two separate days, September 25th and 28th.

WINEMAKING

Beginning with a five-day cold soak, this wine utilized the slow-moving AMH yeast that effectively carried the fermentation for two weeks in tank. Punch-downs were performed one-to-three times daily to aid in the extraction of flavors and color profile desirable for Pinot Noir. Once fermentation was complete, the wine was racked into a blend and began its aging regime until bottling in the following winter.

TASTING NOTES

On the nose, aromas of dark cherry, clove, leather and a hint of molasses are expressed, giving way to the captivating flavors of Hawkster. Full-bodied and robust like its vineyard blocks, the palate showcases black licorice, boysenberry and rich earthiness while asserting lush and silky tannins throughout the finish. Keeping true to his name, Hawkster will remain elegant and continue to evolve for years to come.

Pedigree

VARIETY	100% Pinot Noir
CLONE	2A
PH	3.74
TA	0.59
ALCOHOL	14.5%
AGING	16 months French oak, 72% new
CASES PRODUCED	495