



RIVERBENCH



2014 ESTATE PINOT NOIR

Estate Grown & Bottled – Santa Maria Valley

COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir <i>Clones: 667, 777, Mesa Martini, Pommard</i>
HARVEST	August 28, 2014
COOPERAGE	32% New French Oak
COOPERS	Seguin Moreau
ACIDITY	0.58 g/100ml
PH	3.59
ALCOHOL	13.2%
BOTTLED	July 27, 2015
PRODUCTION	545 cases
PRICE	\$30

WINEMAKERS NOTES

This Pinot Noir is our flagship; a way to really showcase Riverbench Vineyard. Each year, we carefully select the clones and barrel lots that will make up this bottling so that it combines the best qualities of all different parts of the property. The 2014 harvest came upon us early and proceeded quickly, with everything coming into the winery in about ten days from start to finish. But we didn't hurry this wine along; it received plenty of time in barrel to develop amazing complexity and deliciousness. The palate boasts juicy red fruit flavors that meld nicely with a hint of our signature Riverbench smoke and clove. Try it with barbecued salmon with blackberry sauce or anything that involves mushrooms.

2014 HARVEST

Vintage 2014 started off on schedule historically at bud break. The atypical two weeks of 80 degree weather in March and April accelerated things in the vineyard, putting us several weeks ahead of schedule. The warm weather pattern continued each month through bloom and veraison. When all was said and done, we were 18 days ahead of historical harvest dates, the earliest in Santa Barbara County history. Quantity was down for Chardonnay, and average for Pinot Noir. Our Pinot Noir exhibited beautiful small berries which is always a winemakers delight. Harvest was fairly compact in duration and was completed without a hitch. Flavor profiles are beautiful and concentration and color in the finished wines are excellent. 2014 is looking to be as good a vintage as 2012 in Santa Maria Valley, perhaps even better. Time will tell.

