

2004 Pinot Noir

- Vintage:** The 2004 vintage was nearly identical to the exceptional 2003 harvest. A dry spring with unusually high temperatures affected berry set and reduced yields by about 15%. Warmer summer temperatures easily ripened the small crop and led to an early harvest. 2004 produced big, powerful wines; with rich aromas, ripe flavors, and excellent structure.
- Vineyard:** Seven separate clonal selections of Pinot Noir grow on the Truchard Estate Vineyard. Two “Martini” clones, the “Pommard” clone, the “Swan” clone; and several new selections from France - Dijon 115, 667, 777. Each selection provides a unique element of aromatic fruit, spice, and texture to the blend. The vines range from 8 - 30 years in age. They are planted in several select sites that take full advantage of the thin soils, rolling hills, and cooler temperatures; factors which combine to make the Carneros region ideal for producing Pinot Noir.
- Harvest:** Aug. 20 – Sept. 2 • 24.5 °Brix • 3.38 pH • 6.9 g/L TA
- Winemaking:** All of the fruit was gently destemmed and crushed into open top fermenters with approximately 20% whole berries. Each lot was inoculated with Assmannhausen yeast, after “cold soaking” for up to 5 days. Fermentations were punched down three times daily, with the temperature peaking at 92° F. After 7 - 12 days of maceration, the lots were pressed, settled in tanks for 24 hours, and then put to barrel. This wine was aged for 10 months in French oak (35% new), and bottled in August of 2005. It is ready for immediate drinking, but will gracefully age for the next 7 - 10 years.
- Wine Analysis:** 14.1% alcohol • 3.58 pH • 6.2 g/l TA
- Tasting Notes:** Smoky aromas of wild strawberry, cranberry, and ripe plum; combined with subtle notes of citrus blossom, tea, and sweet vanilla. The mouth is silky - layered with rich flavors of Bing cherry, rhubarb, and toasted oak. Bright acidity and delicate tannins focus the palate and provide a lingering finish of spice and red fruit.
- Release Date:** April 1, 2007
Cases Produced: 2305 cases
Bottle Price: \$35.00