

## SKYWALKER PINOT NOIR 2012 MARIN COUNTY ESTATE

Skywalker Vineyards Pinot Noir is defined by two very separate locations, topographies and soil types. The lower block is located 235 feet above the valley floor on a ridge top facing south and west-erly with slopes approaching thirty percent. The warmer of the two sites, it is critically important for Skywalker Vineyards Pinot Noir in very cool seasons (2010, 2011, 2012). The wines made from these grapes are powerful — additional ripeness adds texture to the base of the wine. Another 325 feet higher is the upper block with a strategic north and east facing slope of twenty to thirty percent. It is cooler here, and the season is very late with typical harvest dates of mid to late October. In warmer years, this cooler site is critical to the development of the exotic spice and forest briary characters so typical of Skywalker Vineyards Pinot Noir. Together, the combination of a lower, warmer site and the higher, cooler site, allow for consistency in style while mitigating vintage variation.

Appellation: Marin County

Barrel Age: 14 months in French Oak (30% new )

Clones: 115, 667, 777, 828

Alcohol: 14.3%

Production: 615 cases

Stunning ruby and violet color, speaks to full maturity and a great site. Aromatics are extremely generous in 2012, warm spice, dark fruits of cherry and raspberry, and an attack of supremely dense and sweet fruits followed by a hedonistic, saturated finish that is both lasting and delicate. Cellared in pristine conditions, the 2012 Skywalker Pinot Noir will last a decade or more.

— Scott McLeod, Winemaker

