



# TRUCHARD VINEYARDS

## 2016 PINOT NOIR



**Vintage:** The 2016 vintage was another early harvest, similar to 2015. A mild winter with average rainfall provided some drought relief; but bud-break still came 2-3 weeks earlier than normal. Warm spring weather allowed for good berry set and a slightly below average crop. Moderate summer temperatures easily brought the fruit to full maturity. The wines of 2016 have intense aromas and flavors; with nice structure and balance.

**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 114, 115, 667, 777. Each selection provides a unique element of aromatic fruit, spice, and texture to the blend. The vines range from 20 - 42 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. 31 – Sept. 13 • 24.4 °Brix • 3.40 pH • 7.2 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 into barrel. This wine was aged for 10 months in French oak (35% new), and bottled in August of 2017. It is ready for immediate drinking, but will gracefully age for the next 10 - 12 years.

**Wine Analysis:** 14.1% alcohol • 3.60 pH • 6.1 g/l TA

**Tasting Notes:** Rich aromas of wild strawberry, black cherry, and cranberry; with hints of rhubarb, tea, and earth. The mouth is silky; with flavors of ripe plum, red currants, and sweet vanilla. Firm acidity and delicate tannins focus the palate and provide a lingering finish of spice and red fruit.

**Release Date:** February 1st, 2019

**Cases Produced:** 5355 cases

