



# TRUCHARD VINEYARDS

## 2017 PINOT NOIR



**Vintage:** After 4 dry years, the 2017 harvest can be considered almost “normal”. Record winter rains finally provided some real drought relief; but bud-break still came about 1 week earlier than usual. Warm spring weather allowed for good berry set and a slightly below average crop. Hot summer and autumn temperatures quickly brought the fruit to maturity. Severe wild fires near the end of harvest made this a memorable vintage. The wines of 2017 are intense, but elegant; with nice acidity 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 21 - 43 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:** Sept. 2 – 14 • 24.4 °Brix • 3.47 pH • 7.0 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 2018. It is ready for immediate drinking, but will gracefully age for the next 10 - 12 years.

**Wine Analysis:** 14.1% alcohol • 3.63 pH • 6.0 g/l TA

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

**Release Date:** January 1st, 2020

**Cases Produced:** 4735 cases

