

PAUL HOBBS

2009 PINOT NOIR ULISES VALDEZ VINEYARD RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY

VINEYARD

- Owner/Mgr: Ulises Valdez
- Appellation: Russian River Valley
- Clonal Selection: Calera
- Vine Age: Planted in 2001
- Site: Contoured with northern and southern exposure; Sebastopol series Goldridge yellow and sandy clay loam soils
- Yield: 1.9 tons/acre

HARVEST

- Harvest Date: September 18
- Harvest Brix: 25.4°
- Growing Season: 2009 began with an abundance of spring rain followed by mild, steady summer temperatures that set the stage for nearly ideal pinot noir and chardonnay growing conditions. The well-set fruit ripened slowly allowing for an excellent balance of sugars and acids to develop. The resulting wines can be characterized as elegant and rich with profound depth and structure.

WINEMAKING

- Hand-harvested grapes
- Fermented in small, open-top stainless steel fermentors with indigenous yeasts
- 5 day cold soak, 16 days total maceration
- Hand-punched cap
- Concurrent, spontaneous malolactic fermentation in barrels
- Aged 15 months in French oak barrels; 67% new
- Unfined and unfiltered; bottled January 2011

NOTES

- Cerise in color, this stately pinot noir is a quintessential portrait of assertiveness and refinement in harmony. Aromas of black cherry, violets, and white pepper lead to a firmly structured velvety palate exploding with dark fruits, spice, cola, and subtle notes of almond oil. A seductive finish intertwines oak and firm tannins with balanced acidity for a long memorable finish. Alcohol 14.4%