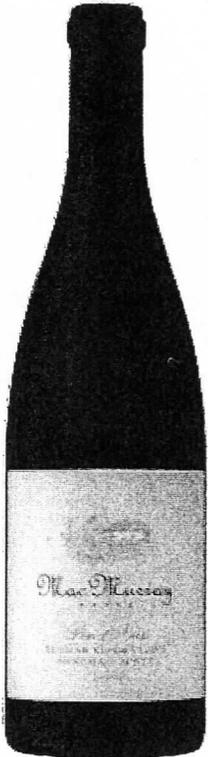




2010 RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR



The Russian River Valley is one of California's most celebrated sources of world class Pinot Noir. The maritime influence of this cool-climate region brings fog through the river valley to blanket the vineyards each day. Warm days and cool nights encourage distinct varietal characteristics to develop in the Pinot Noir grapes here.

WINE DESCRIPTION

From Sonoma's Russian River Valley wine region, this Pinot Noir has elegant varietal fruit character, with rich aromas and flavors of raspberry, cherry, red currant and boysenberries. Hints of lavender and mushroom are supported by a subtle oak influence. This wine will evolve into a silky, smooth wine with time in the bottle.

VITICULTURE NOTES

The 2010 growing season in the Russian River Valley was considered the most challenging in generations. The season started with record-breaking low temperatures in the spring, which led to a late bud break. May brought twenty days of rain, doubling the historic average. The summer season started cool, with plenty of fog and cloud cover, but by late August the sun and heat hit before and after harvest. Yields were down, but despite the hardship, the quality of the fruit has proven to be excellent. Cool climate varieties fared particularly well this vintage, with exceptional brightness and acidity present in the grapes.

WINEMAKING NOTES

Grapes from our premier Russian River Valley estate vineyards contributed to the final blend of this Pinot Noir. The fruit was harvested at the peak of ripeness and gently destemmed, retaining approximately 80 percent whole berries for fermentation. Following a two-day cold soak, a percentage of the must underwent natural fermentation, while the remainder was inoculated with Burgundian yeast strains to reflect the individuality of each terroir included in the blend. The wine was fermented in cone sweep and rotary fermentors and underwent malolactic fermentation to enhance the mouthfeel. Approximately two-thirds of this Pinot Noir was aged in on its lees in oak barrels for nine months.

Varietal Content	Pinot Noir
Varietal Origin:	Russian River Valley
Alcohol Level:	13.8%
Titrateable Acidity:	0.49 g/100ml
Residual Sugar:	0.29 g/100ml