



DARIOUSH

2003 SIGNATURE RUSSIAN RIVER PINOT NOIR

TASTING NOTES

Like many before him, Darioush's love for Pinot Noir was permanently established while visiting Burgundy with winemaker Steve Devitt several years ago. He returned with the understanding that this noble varietal derives its most profound and sublime characteristics from the vineyard in which it is grown.

Knowing location meant everything, Darioush selected a 4.2 acre site of old-vine Pinot Noir on Vine Hill Road, the most highly acclaimed neighborhood in Russian River Valley. Our inaugural vintage from these 25+ year old vines yielded a half-a-ton per acre.

VINIFICATION

Steve gently fermented these precious few whole berries with hand punch-downs several times daily to ensure the wine reflected its classic Russian River characteristics of silky, sophisticated black cherry and strawberry fruit. He then aged the wine in five barrels coopered by François Frères to add a captivating spice box of cinnamon, cola nut, toast and vanilla to the finished wine.

VINTAGE DESCRIPTION

Early spring rains, warm summer and late autumn heat contributed to producing a vintage of tremendous concentration and intensity of flavors. Overall a remarkable growing year yielding wines with great depth and complexity.

FOOD AFFINITIES

Darioush 2003 Pinot Noir is a versatile wine that will compliment many dishes from Copper River Salmon, braised lamb to duck creations.

APPELLATION	Russian River
VINTAGE	2003
COMPOSITION	100% Pinot Noir
COOPERAGE	Aged for 17 months in French Burgundian 3-year seasoned oak barrels sourced from the Tronçais forest in France
WINEMAKER	Steve Devitt
RELEASE DATE	November 2005
RELEASE PRICE	\$48.00 per 750ml bottle
AVAILABILITY	45 cases