

2016 "Deux Verres" Reserve Pinot Noir

Production: 425 cases Bottled: April 12, 2018

Jacques Tardy, Winemaker

The Vintage:

The 2016 growing season started with an early bud break in late March and early April, following a very wet winter the result of a "Godzilla el Nino" with 50% more precipitation than average. April was very warm with 8 days above 80F. May fluctuated from cool to warm, while passing hail storms shredded many leaves with minimal cluster damage, finishing the month with temps above 100F for a couple of days during the end of May. That excess heat prevented full pollination of a lot of berries, resulting in lighter and looser clusters at harvest. June to mid-July was cool, the second part of July, August, and September brought many days in the low 90's with average precipitations. By the end of August, many trucks with grapes could be seen heading to the wineries, mostly younger vineyard and sparkling wine grapes, and the 2016 crush was off and running. Our first grapes, a Pinot Noir came in on September 7th. Our last grapes, also a Pinot Noir arrived on the 24th.

The Vineyard:

Nine vineyards are represented in the 2016 Deux Verres Pinot Noir: Alloro Vineyard, Bella Vida Vineyard, Hoy Vineyard, Kolb Vineyard, La Colina Vineyard, La Dolce Vita Vineyard, Olson Estate Vineyard, Varga Vineyard, Winkler Vineyard.

The Cellar:

Harvested between September 7 and 23 at 22.9 to 26 Brix, the 2016 Deux Verres Pinot noir was hand sorted, fermented in small fermenters with no whole clusters for 13 to 30 days without cold soak, 3 punch downs a day, pressed very gently, and racked to a variety of French oak barrels: 15.57% new and 11.32% one year old and the rest neutral. The barrels were racked in March then again in August when the blend was put together before returning to neutral barrels for a total of 17 months.

The Wine:

The 2016 Deux Verres aroma is forward, rich, with sweet, concentrated red and dark cherries and light-earthy notes. The flavors are bright, sweet and soft, with juicy, concentrated layers of red, dark cherries, blueberries and complex earth notes. The texture is sweet, elegant, with soft and rich silky tannins that add to the creaminess of the wine. The finish is long with fruity layers of black cherries intermingled with concentrated red berries, floral notes and light earthy notes.

Wine Data:

pH 3.62 Total acidity (T.A.) 0.54gr/100ml Residual sugar (R.S.) 0.2gr/100ml Alcohol 13.6%