



## 2011 PINOT NOIR FREESTONE HILLS

BELLA SONOMA, PETERSEN & SALMON CREEK BLOCK VINEYARDS

### VINTAGE NOTES

2011 was a unique growing year for Pinot Noir on the Sonoma Coast. A wet spring and summer, caused some mildew problems. Weeks went on without the sun breaking through the cloud cover. This has allowed for our wine to develop unique characteristics that both fascinate and exhilarate.

The diverse range of Dijon Clones has added an extra level of complexity and showcases the unique sense of place of the Freestone area. The 2011 Freestone Hills captures the truest attributes of the varietal and highlights the purity of Pinot Noir as well as the unique elements of all the vineyards. Cherry and fresh raspberry with elegant cinnamon and earth dominate the aromatics. The palate offers a range of red fruits and spices plus wilberry with just the right amount of tannin acidity and oak spice. The long finish is luxurious. This wine is immediately a lovely glass of Pinot Noir and has enough backbone to stand the test of time.

### WINEMAKER NOTES

Our Freestone Hills was night harvested from the coolest vineyards surrounding the small town of Freestone. This area yields very small crops that harvest late, and are remarkable for the red fruit flavors renown of Pinot Noir from the coolest areas. Harvest took longer than usual, almost the entire month of October, due to a cooler than average summer. Each cluster was hand sorted and de-stemmed in one ton fermenters with approximately 25% left to whole cluster for the enhanced aromatic benefit.

### TECHNICAL NOTES

**Varietal & Clone:** 100% Pinot Noir Dijon 113, 114, 115, 667, 777, 828, Pommard

**Barrel Regimen:** 50% New French Oak, 12 months, Sirugue

**Alcohol:** 14.1%

**pH:** 3.55

