



# LA FOLLETTE

AN ONGOING DIALOGUE WITH SINGULAR VINEYARDS

2017

## BLACK ROAD VINEYARD PINOT NOIR

*Russian River Valley, Sonoma County*

### VINEYARD STORY

Likely no one has cultivated more Russian River Valley vineyards than Jim Pratt, who built his reputation by perfectly matching Pinot Noir clones to site. Split equally between plantings of clone 114 and 115, this vineyard represents the culmination of his over 30 year winegrowing career. Clone 114 is soft and forward with a lovely texture and Clone 115 contributes aromatics and structure for good cellaring potential; these Dijon Clones are a winning combination. La Follette is the exclusive producer of this single-vineyard Pinot Noir, and 2017 Black Road Pinot Noir is the debut vintage.

#### The Place

Vineyard Size: 2 acres

Soil Type: Huichica clay loam

Elevation: 91'

Clones: 114; 115

Rootstock: 101-14

Aspect: Northeast/Southwest

Spacing: 9' x 5'

Year Planted: 2008

#### Fermentation

First pick of the harvest on 8/31/17

Harvested at 24.1 Brix

Destemmed, no crushing

64% Clone 114, 36% Clone 115

No additions

8 day passive cold soak

Native fermentation, primary and secondary

2 punchdowns per day

### SENSORY

Aromas of raspberry, musk, and cocoa with earthy complexity. Juicy red currant entry leads to a fine structure of wet-stone minerality and firm, age-worthy tannins. A burst of late-palate acidity refreshes the palate before a rich, perfumed finish. True to its region, this Russian River Valley Pinot Noir offers layered aromatics and a core of red fruit.

#### Barrel Aging

11 months in French oak

27% new oak (4 out of 15 barrels)

#### Chemistry

Alcohol: 14.0%

pH: 3.52

TA: 0.54g/100ml (%)

