

Fourth Estate Wines 2014 Pinot Noir La Cruz Vineyard Sonoma Coast

From this acclaimed vineyard, managed by Keller Estate, comes a Pinot Noir with elegance and Burgundian flair. Dark fruit pairs with floral notes in a wine that is naturally low in alcohol, giving it years to develop in the bottle.

Vintage characteristics: 2014 featured low yields and excellent growing conditions, following up the strong 2012 and 2013 vintages. The grapes from the hillside La Cruz site ripened evenly and hung on the vines extra long in 2014 for added flavor. We were literally the last winery to harvest our fruit from this site.

Clones: 50% La Tache, 50% Swan.

Average Brix at Harvest: 24.8.

Fermentation regime: 100% punch-down fermentation in one-ton lots. Five-day cold soak, 10-day fermentation, extended maceration.

Barrel Regime: Barrel aged for 11 months in 100% French oak, 40% of which was new (Boutes and Dargaud & Jaegle, both medium-plus toast.)

Total production: 96 cases

Alcohol: 13.5%

Release date: December 2015

Winemaker notes: The La Tache and Swan clones produce rich fruit and floral notes underpinned by the minerality and structure of the La Cruz terroir. The vineyard site is sustainably farmed, which is a priority for us.