

2006 Thorn Road Ranch Pinot Noir

Although our label reads Thorn Road, this 2006 wine is made from the Klopp family's Thorn Ridge Ranch. Prior to bottling there were unresolved trademark issues surrounding the name, so we went with Thorn Road. These have now been resolved and once again we will be able to refer to this lovely vineyard by its proper name.

Neither typical Russian River nor typical Sonoma Coast, the vibrant acidity, deep, dark berry profile and savory earthy character of this Pinot Noir make it a tasty crowd pleaser.

Farmed by Ted Klopp with sustainable practices, this vineyard is located high in the Sebastopol Hills, in an area which had previously been designated Sonoma Coast, but is now part of the expanded Russian River Valley appellation. The character of the fruit is neither typical Russian River nor typical Sonoma Coast. The deep dark berry profile is the result of the steep east facing aspect high above the fog line and the goldridge soils. The clones are Pommard, Swan, and 777 and are from the upper and lower parts of the ranch.

Tasting Notes

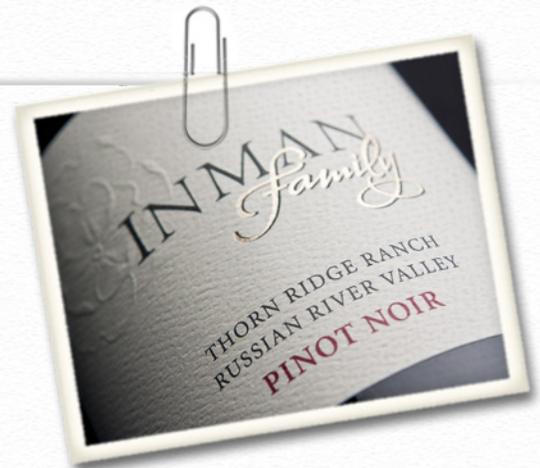
Color: Bright garnet, ruby core

Aroma: Blackberry, blueberry, black tea, earth, dried mushroom and sandalwood

Flavor: Tangy sour cherry, baked blueberries, fresh blackberries, savory roasted meat, sage and black tea. Nice tannins, to match the pretty fruit and high acid. Should age very well. Long tasty finish.

Winemaker Notes

The fruit was destemmed and fermented in open-top 5-ton stainless steel tanks. Because of Botrytis, the wine was not cold soaked and the must was adjusted with acidulated water to reduce the effects of the Botrytis and ease the fermentation. The wine was pressed off when dry and aged in a combination of new, one year and two year old French barrels: about 50% was new. The wine was blended to tank in February 2007 and then returned barrel, to finish the 11 month elevage. The wines were kept on their lees, even after blending, and stirred weekly between October and February. The wines were filtered by crossflow and bottled on August 21, 2007.



Wine Specs

Vintage	2006
Varietal	Pinot Noir
Acid	0.57
PH	3.60
Aging	11 Months in French Oak (50% New)
Harvest Date	September 25
Bottling Date	August 2007
Residual Sugar	0
Tannin	Medium to high for Pinot Noir
Alcohol %	13.77