

2016

CHENOWETH RANCH PINOT NOIR

Russian River Valley



PATZ & HALL



VINEYARD CHARACTER

Like several of our finest vineyards, Chenoweth Ranch was originally cultivated as an apple orchard. Planted in Goldridge soils on the far western edge of the Russian River Valley appellation, this beautiful 7-acre vineyard is located in Green Valley, one of the region's coolest areas, and is farmed almost entirely for Patz & Hall (Charlie Chenoweth makes a small amount of his own wine from the vineyard). Though enjoying excellent sunlight from its slight south-facing orientation, the vineyard is sheltered by steep western hills, which protect the Dijon clone grapes from late-afternoon baking, while helping the fruit to retain natural acidity.

VINTAGE NOTES

2016 was another fantastic growing season. It started out with good winter rainfall, which after four years of drought, was a big relief. While the summer of 2016 was quite hot, a perfectly timed cool-down over a three-week period in August allowed the grapes to ripen with moderate sugar levels. It also preserved the acidity that is so essential to making great Chardonnay and Pinot Noir. Thus, the quality is exceptional with vivid, alluring flavors in the Chardonnays and deep colors and gorgeous aromatics in the Pinot Noir.

TASTING NOTES

Chenoweth Ranch is planted to a mix of Dijon clones that deliver one of the juiciest and richest wines in our single vineyard lineup. Cedar shavings, cassis and pomegranate juice vie with cinnamon-clove shadings as the powerful, heady aromas zoom from the glass. Fruits and spice cascade into layers of complexity. The soft and round tannins are at once dense yet juicy and soft. Though cellar aging will give additional complexity, Chenoweth Ranch is one of the wines that shows its potential earliest. True to form, the 2016 is another exceptional vintage.

WINEMAKING

- 100% Pinot Noir
- Multi-yeast fermentations (native yeast, followed by cultured yeast)
- 10% whole cluster added
- 100% malo-lactic fermentation in barrel
- 100% Burgundian French oak barrels (60% new; 40% 1-2-year old)
- Bottled without filtration to preserve the wine's aromas and flavors and enhance aging potential

THE PATZ & HALL FAMILY OF WINEGROWERS

Charlie Chenoweth - Chenoweth Ranch - Russian River Valley

The Chenoweth family established their homestead estate in Green Valley in the mid-1800s. Increasingly well known as one of California's preeminent vineyard managers, Charlie Chenoweth has earned recognition for his talent as a farmer, and for his collaborative approach to viticulture. In this spirit, we were pleased to work alongside Charlie during the planting of Chenoweth Ranch. We first designated this site as a single-vineyard bottling in 2004. Charlie has also been able to bring us some superlative Pinot Noir fruit over the years for our Sonoma Coast Pinot Noir blend from his Sonoma County vineyard developments.

RELEASE DATE: October 2018
CASES PRODUCED: 944
LABEL ALCOHOL: 14.7%

James Hall

JAMES HALL | Winemaker

PATZHALL.COM