

# PORTER CREEK PINOT NOIR, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY



100% Pinot Noir. Pale garnet color. Beautiful aromas of bright cherry with floral notes of rose and violet. A rich pallet, soft tannins and brooding dark fruit. Very light bodied. Nice mineral notes on the finish. Fantastic with food! Organic.

The estate features 20 acres of hillside vineyards, reminiscent of grand cru vineyards in the Côte d'Or, Burgundy. The vineyards are low yielding. The soil is clay and bedrock (reminiscent of schist, shale and granite). During harvest, sorting is done in the vineyard to minimize handling. 1/3 of the grapes are pressed whole cluster, rendering more flavor in the wine. 3-4 day cold soak in naturally temperature-controlled tanks.

Open top bin fermentation with native yeasts. Aged 16 months in French oak (25% new). Winemaking is gravitationally oriented. Wines age in bottle for 3-6 months prior to release.

George Davis began Porter Creek in 1977 when he purchased 40 acres of land in Sonoma, adjacent to Porter Creek, in the most prestigious part of the Russian River appellation, before Russian River Valley was an appellation. He planted 10 acres of Chardonnay in addition to the 12 acres of Pinot Noir that were already on the land. His first vintage was in 1982. He worked for the next 15 years, paying no attention to shifting wine trends, with the focus of expressing the unique terroirs of the Russian River Valley. In 1997 his son Alex took over the winemaking. Alex had grown up learning how to operate every aspect of the winery, studied enology and viticulture at Fresno State and Dijon, and trained in Dijon and in the Rhône Valley. Like his father, Alex chooses to ignore popular style shifts, and works with a focus on organic, biodynamic, hillside-grown, vineyard-designated wines primarily from their Russian River estate. Rigorous attention is paid both to the soil and the vines to ensure the entire vineyard is operating in harmony. Alex shows rare dedication, passion and attention to detail and produces some of the most balanced, elegant, and refined wines in America.

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## *Tasting Note:*

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## *Shelf Talker:*

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