



EST. 2005

BENOVIA®

Winery

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2008

*Russian River Valley*

*Pinot Noir*

*'La Pommeraie'*

#### Harvest Notes

Spring along the Sonoma Coast was one of the coldest on record; we endured 28 days of frost protection in March and April. We also experienced a second year of drought with rainfall well below average. These two factors would set the stage for early flowering, low yields (compromised by the frost) and a very early harvest. A cool and dry summer, with low mildew and rot pressure, forced us to be more aware of water stress in the vineyard and irrigate as needed. By fall, warm temperatures and an August/September heat spike forced us to harvest some vineyards almost a month early. The resulting low yields and stressed vines produced grapes with tremendous power, color and outstanding potential.

#### Winegrower Notes

This spectacular Martinelli Family vineyard is located along the Laguna Ridge at the edge of the Green Valley AVA. Meticulously farmed and planted at a very high density of 2420 vines per acre, the vineyard is planted to Dijon Pinot Noir clones 777 & 828. Once a spectacular apple orchard, we pay homage to the Martinellis and the history of the site by naming the wine 'La Pommeraie'—French for apple orchard.

#### Tasting Notes

This extraordinary single vineyard Pinot Noir gives an immediate impression of depth and concentration in the glass, with remarkably explosive aromas of boysenberry and black cherry. The palate is viscous and rich, yet light on its feet, with fine-polished tannins and an exceptionally balanced acidity. Although delicious upon release, we expect this wine to improve with cellaring for six to eight years from vintage date.

#### Vineyard Sources

George Martinelli,  
Frei Road Vineyard

#### Harvest Data

September 5, 2008  
Alcohol 14.5%  
pH 3.44  
TA 0.74

#### Fermentation

Cold soaked for ten days,  
indigenous yeast fermentation  
lasted almost three weeks

#### Cooperage

16 months in French Oak—  
51% new French Oak

#### Bottling

March 16, 2010

#### Cases Produced

373 cases

#### Release Date

September 2010