

DUTTON *Goldfield*

2000 Maurice Galante Vineyard **PINOT NOIR** Russian River Valley

APPELLATION
Russian River Valley-Green
Valley

VINEYARD
Maurice Galante Vineyard

ALCOHOL
13.5%

TITRATABLE ACIDITY
.64

PH
3.58

WINEMAKING
Open top fermentation, cold
soak, manual punch down.

BARREL AGING
10 months in French oak
(70% new barrels)

WINEMAKER
Dan Goldfield

CASES PRODUCED
290

THE VINEYARD

Dr. Maurice Galante bought an old apple orchard on the east slope of Cherry Ridge road in the mid eighties and had the Dutton family farm it for him. A decade later Steve planted this prime spot to some of Dan's favorite Pinot Noir clones; in this case Dijon 667 and 777, and a bit of Pommard. The sunny eastern slope, and shallow soils of this vineyard produce tiny Pinot berries with thick skins, and in 2000 yielded only a miniscule one ton per acre. All of this shows in the color, intensity and structure of this first release of Maurice Galante Vineyard Pinot Noir.

WINEMAKING

After destemming into small open top fermenters, the must is cold-soaked for 5 days to gently extract spice and fruit characters, while mitigating harsher tannins. We punch down by hand up to 4 times daily, according to the stage of the fermentation. The Pommard and the Dijon clones were kept separate during fermentation and early barrel aging. At racking in mid-March our favorite Dijon clone barrels were chosen for this blend. After blending, the wine is moved back into a variety of French coopered barrels to rest until bottling in late August. The high intensity and dense tannins of the Galante fruit makes it a good match for some heavier toast French wood. The wine was bottled unfinned and unfiltered in the fall, after spending approximately 11 months in oak.

THE WINE

The 2000 Galante bursts with deep, ripe blackberry fruit on both the nose and the palate. With its broad tannins, juicy, focused fruit, and overtones of allspice and toffee, this is a mouthful of wine. It shows both the ebullience of youth and the potential for aging. We hope that this first Maurice Galante release is a harbinger of things to come.