

PATRICIA GREEN CELLARS



2016 Volcanic Soil Pinot Noir

AVA: Dundee Hills

PRODUCTION: 332 cases bottled

SOIL TYPE: Jory

Site Characteristics: The Dundee Hills are located in a largely south-facing somewhat circular pattern about 40 miles from the Pacific Ocean. Protected from coastal winds and from weather coming out of the North, the Dundee Hills are surprisingly warm in relation to adjacent areas during the summer and early fall. These hills are result of the Pacific Rim's "Ring of Fire" and the soil is a lava based soil containing silt, loam and clay. The result is a dense, ultra-rich soil that with even minimal oversight supports healthy vegetative growth. In the hands of professional vineyard managers, the soil allows vineyards to flourish and the fruit to take on the richness the land has to offer.

As much as possible we here at Patricia Green Cellars view our wines not only individually, but within the context of the continuum in which they exist here at the winery. This wine is an important component as it defines the root example of our Dundee vineyards (Balcombe, Durant and Weber) planted in volcanic (Jory) soil. This bottling combines barrels from each of these sites to show how the soil in which our plants are grown impacts the way the plant grows and ripens fruit, and how that ripe fruit develops into the final product. From the Dundee Hills one should expect sweetness of fruit in the mid-palate combined with a variety of spices common to Pinot Noir. Perhaps most importantly, the wines from this region have a remarkable texture: silky with satin-y tannins that allow the fruit to linger. This bottling is a true representation of volcanic soils that demonstrates all of these elements in spades and is the baseline for all our Dundee Hill bottlings.

Winemaking and Notes: This bottling comes equally from the high elevation, 1990 plantings of Pommard in Balcombe Vineyard, the mid-tier elevation of both the 44 year-old Pommard clone vines in Durant Vineyard's Bishop Block and the Dijon 115 in the 18 year-old Madrone Block, the 38-year old vines from Weber Vineyard and from a Worden Hill Rd. site planted in 1990 that is bottled under the name 'Mysterious'. This mix allows us to take from the cooler, windier Breyman Orchard sites (Balcombe and Durant) as well as the cool vineyard within the warm growing area (Worden Hill Rd.) to show a complete picture of the Dundee Hills and its volcanic soil influences. While some element of whole cluster fermentations barrels was used, no new barrels were incorporated so as to show the clearest path from soil to wine as possible. This wine has a dynamic set of vineyards that make it up. What comes forth is pure Dundee Hills goodness. Red fruits and spices combine on an incredible textural lattice making this wine both educational and very difficult to not find appealing. Come for the geology, stay for the incredible taste.

