

2015 Pinot Noir Helluva Vineyard Anderson Valley

This 2015 pinot noir is defined by warm days, cold nights and a true presence of place. Helluva Vineyard is tucked up against the waterfall of forest that flows down along the western edge of the valley. It experiences mornings and afternoons which are sun drenched and warm which leads into cooler evenings and the typical cold nights thanks to the creek bed which ushers the cold forest air down through the vineyard on a nightly basis. There is a definite sense of where this wine comes from. It has loads of red berry fruit intertwined with baking spices and subtle notes of forest floor and rich mineral.

This wine is beautifully expressive not only in the aromatics but on the palate as well. Medium bodied with an elegant texture and a finishing energy that really adds to the layers of dimension. Aged for 10 months in 25% new Burgundy barrels with the balance in 2nd and 3rd use Burgundy barrel. Drinking fantastic now but will only improve over the next 5-7 years.

Insider Tip: Our 2014 Helluva Vineyard, Pinot Noir received 93pts. and big praise from Antonio Galloni, the founder of Vinous Media.

Vineyard location: Anderson Valley, Mendocino County

Clones: Pommard 5

Harvest Date: September 3, 2015

Aging: 10 months in French Oak (25% new)

Details: 14% alcohol

Production: 245 cases

SRP: \$40

www.smithstorywinecellars.com