

2007 Leras Vineyard Pinot Noir

The Leras is always the most “classic” (meaning “Old World” or “Burgundian”) of Russian Hill’s Pinot noirs and the 2007 is no exception. This vintage is unique, however, in that it has a fruit-forwardness that we do not usually experience in this wine. Likely a result of the great 2007 vintage, this wine is a medley of tobacco, cola, cherry and spice flavors. The combination of structure, elegance, and balance with a touch of fruit makes this one of the best (if not the best) vintages to date of this wine.

Wine Specs

Vintage 2007

Varietal Pinot Noir

Appellation Russian River Valley

Vineyard Designation Leras Vineyard

Harvest Date Leras Vineyard was hand harvested on September 9, 2007, three weeks earlier than typical at 24.6 brix.

Aging 16 months

Bottling Date March 02, 2009

Alcohol % 14.3

Wine Profile

Vineyard Notes Leras Vineyard is owned and farmed by Nick Leras whose family members are pioneer grape growers in the Russian River Valley, having farmed winegrapes in this area since 1918. Nick personally tends to his grapes and performs all aspects of grape growing including vine propagation and field budding. The vineyard has been slowly brought to maturity and is now dry farmed. The trellising system is a modified Scott Henry which provides excellent balance to these vines grown in richer, low lying soils.

Winemaker Notes After sorting, the grapes were gently destemmed into small, custom designed open top fermenters and kept below 50°F for a five day cold soak. Tanks were then individually warmed to allow fermentation to take place in a timely manner followed by cooling as needed to maintain temperatures below 85°F. Thrice daily pneumatic punch downs took place during the cold soak and fermentation. Once dry, the wine was gently pressed in a membrane press keeping free run and press fractions separate. Malolactic fermentation took place in oak barrels.