

CLOS DE LA TECH



2014 PINOT NOIR **DOMAINE DU DOCTEUR RODGERS**

OVERVIEW

With caves tunneling deep into a vine-covered ridge in the Santa Cruz Mountains and vineyards so steep they have to be farmed with a unique, specially-designed tractor moved by cables, Clos de la Tech is one of the most ambitious and innovative Pinot Noir producers in California. The winery was established in 1994 and continues to be operated by TJ Rodgers, founder and retired CEO of Cypress Semiconductor, and his wife, Valeta. Some of the highlights at Clos de la Tech include extreme growing conditions, high-altitude terrain, vine-by-vine farming, high-density planting (4,150 vines per acre), low yields, innovative equipment, gravity-flow winery, whole cluster fermentations with native yeast, and no filtration.

VINEYARD

Clos de la Tech's five Pinot Noirs come from three estate vineyards: Domaine du Docteur Rodgers, Domaine Valeta and Domaine Lois Louise. Domaine du Docteur Rodgers is a one-acre, rolling, hilltop vineyard in the town of Woodside along the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains. It is a relatively cool, dry, protected site that consistently produces dramatically rich and concentrated Pinot Noirs.

WINEMAKING

The fruit was hand harvested from September 1st to the 3rd. After a 10-day cold soak, the grapes underwent traditional vinification methods including foot crushing, whole cluster fermentation with native yeast, malolactic fermentation on lees and gravity transfer (no pumping). The wine was aged in Francois Frères barrels (Bertrange Forest) for 18 months and bottled unfiltered.

TASTING NOTES

When blind tasting our five individual bottlings each vintage, there is never any doubt as to which one is the Docteur Rodgers. In keeping with its predecessors, this 2014 is rich, luscious, layered and complex with the telltale hint of mint that characterizes this site. Deep, strong and structured, this Pinot Noir will continue to expand and improve for the next 20 years.

STATISTICS

Composition	100% Pinot Noir
Vineyard	Domaine du Docteur Rodgers
Barrel Aging	18 months in Francois Frères French oak barrels
pH	3.54
TA	0.60
Alcohol	13.8
Production	186 cases

