



# SAINTSBURY

## 2009 Brown Ranch Carneros Pinot Noir

- Ranch planted in 1992 to: Pommard and Dijon 115, 667 and 777
- Blend in 2009: 72% clone Pommard; 16% Clone 667, 11% clone 777; 1% clone 115
- 5 days cold soak, 17 days total cuvaision
- 10 months in Taransaud and Francois Frères French oak barrels, 40% new
- Tasting Notes: Savory aromas of mushroom, cedar and cigar box, which lead to dark cherry and mulberry. Silky and smooth entrance with flavors of sage and thyme that are balanced by rich dark cherry and French roast.

To produce a single vineyard wine you should be convinced the vineyard has something unique and identifiable to offer. It should be a vineyard that will yield a wine whose intensity and personality you are unable to obtain in your other wines. We knew this about our Brown Ranch after the first harvest of its Pinot Noir grapes in 1995.

We planted our Brown Ranch to the then-new Dijon clones in 1992 along with the addition of Pommard on an exposed ridge. With our first harvest we noticed a unique character to the wines made from these grapes. There are eight lots that are separately fermented, aged and assessed. And while each has its unique qualities due to clonal, rootstock and terroir differences, there is a consistent thread running through these Brown Ranch pinot noirs.

The ranch has a combination of typical Carneros clay loams and cobbly clay loams as well as some volcanic soil types on steeper hillsides. Three separate Dijon clones (115, 667 and 777) are planted on four different rootstocks influenced by many soil types and exposures. Yields typically range from 2.25 to 3.0 tons/acre (30-40 hl/ha). Wines from this vineyard show more rich earthiness and black fruit than the more red-fruit character of other lots in our cellar. A dark fruit intensity with stunning persistence is a hallmark of this wine.

Less than a third of the pinot noir from this, our best vineyard site, goes into the Brown Ranch Pinot Noir each year. The label features a small, gold crown, giving homage to Burgundy—long regarded as the king of Pinot Noir.