

# SARALEE'S VINEYARD

2012



## Lush. Fruity. Intense.

"Sweet FLORAL scents, along with black LICORICE, earth and ESPRESSO. Wild BERRY flavors, along with COCOA, black tea and cloves. LUSH texture with a SPICY, lingering finish."

ELIZABETH GRANT-DOUGLAS, WINEMAKER





#### THE STATS:

Appellation: Russian River Valley
Composition: 100% Pinot Noir
Type of Oak: 100% French oak;

37% new

Time in Barrel: 9 months Alcohol: 14.5%

T.A.: 0.52g / 100mL

pH: 3.79

R.S.: 0.04g / 100mL

Our original name, La Crema Vinera, means "best of the vine," setting the standard for all we do since 1979. Our family-owned and operated winery focuses exclusively on cool-climate appellations. We're continually exploring these very special regions — passionate in our belief that they make uniquely expressive and elegant wines.

#### A REMARKABLE PLACE

At the heart of the Russian River Valley sits a majestic vineyard honoring the late Saralee Kunde, one of the region's most beloved and respected wine-growing visionaries. Atop rolling vineyards, awash in rustic charm and dotted with flower gardens and oak groves, it's truly storybook. And the fruit? Magical.

This is Saralee's Vineyard, a Russian River Valley gem. It's a place for La Crema.

### **EXCEPTIONAL GRAPES**

A cool climate means grapes spend more time on the vine. That allows a deeper, more dramatic spectrum of flavors and aromas to develop. And that creates decidedly rich and layered wines.

Ask most growers and winemakers and they'll tell you that 2012 conditions were ideal. Grapes ripened slowly, with more time to develop the concentration and lush fruit that only comes with longer hang time. Harvest was September 28 — the grapes were handpicked, then gently destemmed.

#### ARTISAN WINEMAKING

### Our boutique, hands-on techniques continued into the winery.

Seventy percent whole berries went into open top tank fermentation, with juice cold-soaked for four to five days and carefully hand punched three times each day — to best extract a luminous, deep ruby color and velvety texture from the skins. Free run wine was transferred to 100 percent French oak barrels. Nine months of aging helped create our signature smooth flavors.

It's no surprise that the resulting wine is as charming as the place it comes from. Balanced, elegant, earthy and distinct.

The singular beauty of Saralee's Vineyard in every sip.