



Fact Sheet

Thorne Wine
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Overview:

The Rio Vista ranch was originally settled in the late 1800's and primarily used for cattle grazing and farming. Even in those early days, the ranchers must've known that this was a prime location for wine grapes, as oral history tells of a vineyard in what is now Block 7 of the Rio Vista Vineyard. The Thorne family has farmed the land for over fifty years, and in 2000 decided to plant the first 26 acres of Pinot Noir. Fruit from the first vintage in 2003 was quickly acquired by the area's finest winemakers, including those of Brewer-Clifton, Drew, Flying Goat Cellars, Hitching Post, Ken Brown and Tantara. With the bountiful and elegant 2005 vintage, the Thorne's decided to create their own estate grown wine. The inaugural 2005 Thorne Pinot Noir was released in October, 2007, and wines under the Thorne label will continue under subsequent vintages.

Rio Vista Vineyard

The vineyard is the eastern-most vineyard in the acclaimed Sta. Rita Hills AVA (American Viticultural Appellation). Two vineyards were planted in 2000 and encompass 26 acres of Pinot Noir. A third 38 acre vineyard was planted in 2006, with a highly anticipated first harvest in 2009. All three vineyards are planted solely to Pinot Noir and include clones 2A, 667, 777, 115, 828, Pommard and Calera. The vineyards are farmed and managed by John Belfy of Buona Terra Farming.

Thorne Wine

Thorne Pinot Noir is an estate grown wine, made under the supervision of consulting winemaker Michael Roth. The inaugural 2005 release is a blend of clones 2A, 115 and 777. A clonal designated wine highlighting Pinot Noir clone 667 is expected to be released in 2008. Only 425 cases of the initial release were produced.

Thorne Wine Traits:

- Estate grown, representing the specific terroir of Rio Vista Vineyard
- Handcrafted, limited production releases
- Dark berry characteristics, intertwined with earthiness and mineral characteristics of the vineyards