

EST.  1973



## LAZY CREEK VINEYARDS

PROPRIETORS DON & RHONDA CARANO

2013

### MIDDLERIDGE RANCH PINOT NOIR

*Anderson Valley*

#### **APPELLATION**

Anderson Valley

#### **VARIETAL**

100% Pinot Noir

#### **COOPERAGE**

46% new French oak  
54% older French oak

#### **TASTING NOTES**

Between two ridges in the hills above Boonville, Mendocino County, sits Lazy Creek's newest ranch, Middleridge, in Anderson Valley. It's quiet and peaceful, with warm, western winds sweeping across the vineyards in the afternoon, so the flavors of the grapes tend to be very fruit driven, but still possess the spice and minerality for which the valley is known. The 2013 Lazy Creek Middleridge Ranch Pinot Noir is lush with aromas and flavors of maple, juicy black cherry, cola, boysenberry and pomegranate with hints of floral, spice, licorice and anise. This wine's smooth texture is complemented by bright acidity, a rich mid-palate and a lingering finish.

#### **VINTAGE NOTES**

Characterized mainly by gentle and open rolling hills studded with large oak trees, Middleridge is a 160-acre ranch where 22 acres of well-regarded Pinot Noir clones are planted at 1,275-foot elevation. The 2013 vintage began with a good amount of rain in December, 2012, which carried the Pinots through another drought cycle. The growing season was perfect — warm through the summer and into September, then cooling in October. Vines ripened a bit on the early side. A big crop set despite drought conditions, and extensive thinning helped balance the vines.

#### **WINEMAKER NOTES**

The Pinot Noir grapes are hand harvested and hand sorted in the field. The grapes are cold soaked for two to three days and fermented in small bins and stainless steel open-top fermentors. Various yeast strains are introduced to add complexity. Fermentors are punched down one to three times per day. Wines are pressed when dry and then racked to barrels to complete malolactic fermentation. The wines are aged for 10 months in new and neutral French oak barrels.

#### **FOOD PAIRINGS**

Our Lazy Creek Vineyards Middleridge Ranch Pinot Noir is a seductive, aromatic wine that pairs well with salmon, fowl and meat entrees such as beef bourguignon or rack of lamb.

#### **WINE INFORMATION**

Bottled: September 2014, Alcohol: 14.5%, pH/TA: 3.71/.54, Cases: 458



Lazy Creek Vineyards is a Certified California Sustainable Winery

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