



## 2015 “Earthquake Block” Pinot Noir, Don Miguel Vineyard *Estate Grown, Estate Bottled*

### Why “Earthquake” Block?

Back in the winter of 1995, as we were getting ready to plant this parcel, a huge storm created a deep ravine in the sloping hill where the future vineyard was already staked. The next morning the sight was frightening — it looked like an earthquake had hit the block! After that, we never referred to it by any other name.

This parcel is planted with the Pommard clone, which consistently gives us a wine that harmonizes deep color, intensity and concentration with suppleness and elegance. It is situated on a slope at the top of the Don Miguel Vineyard, with ideal row orientation that ensures perfect ripening.

### The Don Miguel Vineyard

Named after the late patriarch of the Torres family, this vineyard is located in the Green Valley – the coolest, foggiest region of the Russian River Valley, only ten miles from the Pacific. The European-style high density of over 2,000 vines per acre produces low yields and requires intensive labor; but the vines live longer and the grapes acquire better balance and greater concentration, as well as more elegance and finesse than with the traditional low density.

### The Vinification

The grapes were harvested on August 27, destemmed, and fermented in small stainless steel tanks. The wine was then aged in premium French oak barrels, 50% new, coopered by Marchive and Rousseau from the forest of Bertranges. After 10 months of oak aging the wine was bottled, unfiltered and unfiltered, in August 2016.

### Tasting Notes

Intense nose of cassis, black plums, fresh wild berries and red fruits like cherries, plus a touch of mint. The palate is pronounced, with notes of orange peel, clove and cedar. The integrated oak and balanced tannins promise a very long life — at least 15-20 years. I would recommend serving it at cellar temperature, between 58-60° F.

202 cases produced (in 9L units)

**Marimar Torres**  
**Founder & Proprietor**

**Suggested California Retail: \$66**