

Littorai

2014 Savoy Vineyard Pinot Noir

Producer Profile

Littorai Wines is a small, family-owned and operated winery producing world class vineyard designated Chardonnay and Pinot Noir from the true north coast of California: the coastal mountains of Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. The Littorai path flows from our dedication to producing wines of place, wines which reflect the genius of an individual site. There are no substitutes for low yields and careful site and vine selection. Winegrowing is a wonderful word, for it implies that the object is not to produce the most beautiful vine or grape cluster but to produce the finest wine. Such wine should be a reflection of the vineyard and not the cellar. We believe that all additives, such as cultured yeasts, cultured bacteria, acidification, enzymes etc. are not appropriate to the greatest expression of terroir. Where some producers look to technology as the route to great wines, we focus on hands-on farming and working with Mother Nature.

Vineyard

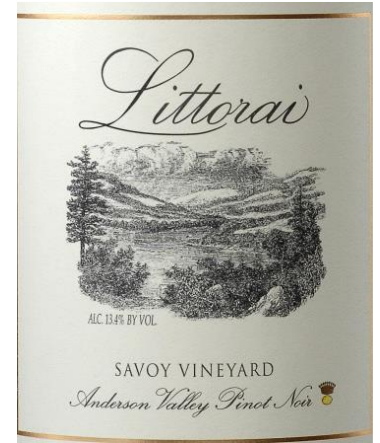
What attracted Littorai to this area of Savoy is an old world notion that the best parcels within a vineyard lie at the toe of the slope. Adding to that is the complexity of clones within the Savoy vineyard. Our rows of Savoy are located at the base of the hills on the northeastern side of the Anderson valley. While this is the cooler end of the valley, the vineyard is protected on two sides. Thus the site is warmer than most of its neighbors.

Vintage Information

The 2014 vintage was the second vintage in a row of copious yields. Hence for a second year in a row rigorous thinning was required in many vineyards. This involved multiple passes to ensure that crop levels were not excessive. Yields were slightly lower than 2013 and there was a much greater percentage of small shot (seedless) berries. These small berries contribute significantly to the concentration of the wines. By bottling the wines had significant structure and resembled the 2012s but with less primary fruit and more exotic, expressive aromatics. This is a concentrated vintage with plenty of aging potential. They will certainly please both in their youth and with several years of aging.

Tasting Notes

Pure and elegant notes of raspberry and black cherry with hints of earth, fungi and wet river rocks. Wonderful balance between acidity, tannin and richness. First the richness shows, then the tannin, then the acidity lingers on in the finish. So intense, but never giving up any precision. Very fine and long. This is a stellar Savoy. While it is often less showy than many of the other vineyard designates and its elegance can get lost, that is not the case in 2014.



APPELLATION
Anderson Valley

SOILS
Pinole and Boont
loams over
Franciscan shale

FARMING
Farmed using
organic materials,
not certified

VINE AGE
Planted in 1991,
1992, 1993

CLONES
Dijon 114, 115,
667, 777, Calera
and Pommard

BARREL AGEING
16 months French
oak, 25% new

YIELDS
2.44 tons/acre in
2014

PRODUCTION
430 cases

ALCOHOL
12.8% abv

