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**EMERITUS**  
*Estate Grown Pinot Noir*

**2017 EMERITUS VINEYARDS, RUSSIAN RIVER VALLEY PINOT NOIR  
ESTATE GROWN, PRODUCED AND BOTTLED**

**Wine Notes:**

Emeritus Vineyards was founded in 1999 by legendary vintner Brice Cutrer Jones when he acquired the Hallberg Ranch after selling his first winery, Sonoma-Cutrer. His goal was to create a grand-cru-caliber Pinot Noir estate. In 2008 Emeritus purchased an old farm about 12km away and planted the Pinot Hill Vineyard. The two vineyards are now some of the most sought-after sources for Pinot Noir in Sonoma County's Russian River Valley. Hallberg Ranch has been farmed without supplemental irrigation—dry farmed—since 2011, and Pinot Hill since 2013. Dry farming is not a common practice in California because there is little summer rainfall. This method allows the grapes to develop beautifully full flavors without becoming overripe.

The 2017 vintage offered the finest quality to date for Emeritus. There was plenty of winter rainfall that promoted vigorous growth. At harvest there was a four-day heatwave with temperatures over 38°C. However, we saw no shriveled grapes or stress in the vines, and the sugars did not spike. We attribute that to our dry farming practice; the vines have very deep roots where the soil is moist from the winter rains.

This wine comes from our two estate vineyards in Sebastopol. Pinot Hill is a cooler, steeper site producing high-acid, complex and delicate wines. Hallberg Ranch brings more textural roundness and alluring red fruit flavors to the wine. This wine is intensely aromatic with enticing high-toned red cherry, raspberry and cranberry notes, all underscored by hints of sweet cinnamon. It is beautifully focused and sophisticated, with a laser-like mouthfeel that arcs over the palate with a fresh, spicy and persistent finish.

**Wine Tech:**

<b>Appellation</b>	Russian River Valley (Sebastopol)
<b>Vineyard Sources</b>	Hallberg Ranch & Pinot Hill
<b>Varietals</b>	Pinot Noir
<b>Soil Series</b>	Goldridge sandy loam underlain with clay soils
<b>Barrel Program</b>	French oak, 15% new, aged 10 months

