



## IPO WINES

**COUNTRY**  
USA

**REGION**  
California

**APPELLATION**  
Sonoma County

**SOIL TYPE**  
clay

**VARIETAL(S)**  
100% Pinot Noir

**FARMING**  
Traditional

**WINEMAKER**  
Nicholas Maloney



# 2016 Father John Mendocino "Comptche" Pinot Noir

IMPORTED BY IPO Wines

### ABOUT THE PRODUCER

Father John is made in honor of the life of the late Reverend John Weaver, a renowned Episcopalian priest. Father John was extremely influential on those who were lucky enough to share their time with him. He was dedicated to a life of honesty and reverence and was committed to living in peace.

In 2010 Father John Wines was started with the idea that each wine should be true to its provenance. That is to say, each vineyard should express its own distinct character. Their wines are able to fully express their specific site and local microclimates, yet are distinctive in their structural balances and individual flavors. All of their vineyard sites have strong Pacific coast influences.

Owner Nicholas Maloney, John's grandson, started Father John Winery during his stay in France which included work in Haute Savoie, Margaux, Nuits-saint-Georges and Pernand Vergelesses in the Côte d'Or. His experiences in France influenced his philosophy of creating wines that highlight the freshness, delicacy and the acidity of Pinot over power or ripeness. They create wines at Father John that age gracefully and are designed to accompany fine cuisine.

The way they produce their wines is both simple and refined, beginning with the ancient technique of fermenting grapes whole cluster with native yeasts. This gives a structural component to the wine that is otherwise unattainable with the use of the destemmer. At every step along the way, they elect to maximize the quality and depth of wines are seldom fined and never filtered to preserve their integrity. Once fermented, wines rest for less than a year in French oak barrels from the Forest of Allier before they are bottled.

### WINE NOTES

The Comptche Vineyard is situated amongst ranches 10-15 minutes north of Anderson Valley. Because it is just outside the appellation's limits, it has received less attention than its bigger brother to the south. However, because of the wines that are beginning to emerge from the area, Comptche is primed to soon be awarded an appellation of its very own.

The vineyard is nestled seven miles from the Pacific Ocean and less than a mile from the Albion river. These two sources of water protect the grapes from the heat of the summer. Surrounding the vineyard are groves of California's awe inspiring Sequoia trees which filter the constant breeze that kisses the vines. Uniquely, this vineyard was planted own-rooted without rootstock in clay soil.

Similar to our Greenwood Ridge pinot, the Comptche expression carries a remarkable acidity that balanced out by its own unique texture and tannin structure. Because the vines are own-rooted, its flavors come out much more bold and distinct. This wine carries a medium plus body for pinots and it also has amazing tannin structure that is prime for aging. The length of this wine and its natural acidity make it to be amongst California's finest pinot noirs. It is their finest pinot and the reason why he no longer plans to make any red in Burgundy. 12.8%