

Au Bon Climat



2021

Pinot Noir, “Knox Alexander”

Named after Jim Clendenen’s son Knox, this wine represents the finest lots of Pinot Noir from the Santa Maria Valley appellation; in this case Bien Nacido Vineyard where the winery is located and Runway Vineyard, our next door neighbor. Though close to each other, these two vineyards produce outstanding Pinot Noir that are distinctly different. Blended together the wine showcases the signature Santa Maria Valley Pinot Noir character of cherry, cranberry, red currant, rose hip and sage that is so well displayed in Knox Alexander Pinots. It is a well structured, complex Pinot Noir of depth that becomes even more remarkable as the wine ages and integrates.

AT A GLANCE

APPELLATION:
Santa Maria Valley

VINEYARD:
multiple

VARIETAL:
100% Pinot Noir

COOPERAGE:
20 months new François Frères
French oak

HARVEST: September 5, 2021

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

ACIDITY: 6.0 g/L

pH: 3.6

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <0

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$65

Food Pairings

Knox Alexander has enough structure and tannins to stand up to meaty and gamey flavors, but also more contains more delicate notes of black tea and hibiscus. Pair with seared duck breast with a strawberry balsamic reduction, grilled salmon with a hibiscus glaze, or an herb-crusted rack of lamb with a side of roasted vegetables.

From The Winemaker

We experienced a cool harvest with slow ripening to allow the grapes to fully mature.

Tasting Notes

Knox Alexander Pinot Noir exhibits a refined profile with notes of ripe strawberry, delicate black tea, hints of lilac, and the subtle allure of hibiscus. Passion fruit floral components add a graceful touch. The palate experience is enduring as the once prominent tannins from wood components have now evolved into a silky texture, promising further integration and refinement with time.

Au Bon Climat & Clendenen Family Vineyards

SALES: +1 (805) 680-8077 | WINERY: +1 (805) 937-9801

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