

Au Bon Climat



2021

Pinot Noir, Rancho la Cuna

Owned by the Clendenen family, Rancho La Cuna Vineyard is located in the heart of the Los Alamos Valley with the vines situated on steep hillsides. It is a small vineyard (about 15 acres) but a significant one. After 10 years of production, the Rancho La Cuna Pinots are showing their maturity. The fruit is distinctive producing contemplative Pinots that have layered complexity. Los Alamos Valley does not have an appellation although it deserves one; consequently the labels carry the designation "Santa Barbara County".

AT A GLANCE

APPELLATION:
Santa Barbara County

VINEYARD:
Rancho La Cuna

VARIETAL:
100% Pinot Noir

COOPERAGE:
24 months, 100% new François Frères French 350L oak barrels

HARVEST: October 11, 2021

ALCOHOL: 13.5%

ACIDITY: 5.8 g/L

pH: 3.61

RESIDUAL SUGAR: <0

SUGGESTED RETAIL: \$50

Tasting Notes

Aromatics and flavors of cranberry, dried cherry, lilac, cola, and licorice provide fruit and depth in this wine. Experience a well-structured and textured mouthfeel, with subtle hints of orange zest and flint emerging towards the finish. The wine concludes with a long, satisfying finish characterized by grippy oak tannins.

Food Pairings

Pair the savory notes of this wine with rustic and earthy dishes such as grilled portobello mushrooms with caramelized onions, slow-roasted duck, or grilled eggplant and bell peppers served with balsamic glaze.

From The Winemaker

The vines at Rancho La Cuna are situated on steep hillsides. The Pinot section is planted mainly to clone 115 with a small amount of 828. All of our Pinot Noir is hand-picked, and processed soon after harvest. The grapes arrive at the winery cool, have a slow fermentation, and are manually punched down at least two times per day to gently extract all the flavor & tannins from the grapes.

After fermentation, the wine is aged in 100% new François Frères French oak barrels for 24 months, then bottled without filtration. Rancho La Cuna Pinots are not simple fruit bombs. They are supple, elegant, and so well balanced that the many varied flavors coexist harmoniously all in one wine. The wine will continue to age gracefully for ten to fifteen years though they have aged well for much longer.