



2008 Rosella's Vineyard Pinot Noir

Pelerin Wines

The Santa Lucia Highlands is proving to have the right combination of climate and soil to produce world class Pinot Noir. As a partner in the Garys' vineyard, Gary Franscioni is certainly a grower at the forefront of building this reputation. His home vineyard, named for his wife Rosella, is also in the cooler north end of the appellation. Gary is the perfect kind of grower with whom to tackle the challenges of Pinot Noir; he is meticulous and ruthless in his quest to grow great Pinot.

The east-southeast facing benchland property consists of gravelly-clay soils, and a 150 foot elevation difference from back to front. Rosella's Vineyard is planted to several clones. Our 2007 'Rosella's Vineyard' Pinot Noir is mostly produced from the 'Pisoni' clone, as well as some clone 777.

The 2008 'Rosella's Vineyard' Pinot Noir presents intense aromas of dark cherries and spiced plums, accompanied by complex notes of fresh flowers, tilled soil, tea leaves, cola and vanillin. A certain measure of spiciness shows in the flavors as well, with licorice woven together with the cherry and strawberry characters. The texture is gracious and supple at the front and the edges, tapering to a long finish with a moderate amount of fine-grained tannins.

Harvested September 20th – September 30th, 2008

24.8 brix (average) at harvest

5.67 tons of clone 777 and the 'Pisoni' clone was hand-picked and sorted, destemmed, and fermented in four small lots. The wine remained on its lees, unracked, until blending in late August. It was minimally handled throughout its elevation, received neither fining nor filtration, and was subsequently bottled in January 2009.

VINTAGE

2009

VARIETAL

Pinot Noir

BARREL AGING

15 months

bottled January 20th, 2010

COOPERAGE

40% new Cadus and Francois
Freres French oak barrels

PRODUCTION

351 cases

COMPOSITION

100% Pinot Noir