



Elizabeth Spencer[™]

2006 Rosé of Pinot Noir Anderson Valley

Appellation: Anderson Valley
Varietal Blend: 100% Pinot Noir
Production: 10 Barrels
Winemakers: Spencer Graham

Winemaker's Notes

Light pink in hue with salmon colored highlights. This wine offers an inviting nose reminiscent of home-grown strawberries, ripe cherries, and spices. The aromas of ripe strawberry carry through to the palate and are joined by fresh, ripe red raspberry. Expansive on the palate, this dry rose has a plush texture with a delightfully mouth-filling sweet fruit impression that carries through to the finish with just enough brightness and acidity to cleanse the palate.

Winemaking

After a meticulous process in which the grapes were hand-selected in the vineyard, our Anderson Valley Pinot Noir grapes were sent directly to the press as whole clusters. The grapes were then gently pressed and fermented at a controlled cold temperature in order to preserve the bright, pure fruit aromas and flavors. As soon as the wine was through fermentation, it was promptly bottled in order to preserve its quenching freshness.

Vineyards

Our Pinot Noir comes from a gently sloping, 20-year old vineyard that is situated in the middle of the Anderson Valley. The weather here during the 2006 growing season was characterized by dense foggy mornings followed by warm, sun-filled afternoons making this climate particularly well-suited for the cultivation of Burgundian varieties. The ideal match of the varietal to site and terroir is reflected in the purity of the classic, Pinot Noir flavors and aromas found in wine grapes grown in this vineyard.

Vintage

At the start of the growing season, our 2006 vintage appeared to be on the same path as that of 2005 with a wet spring and a cooler than average summer, until mid-summer when a two-week heat wave arrived. Being a cool-climate growing area, Anderson Valley was spared the high temperatures found in the warmer central regions of the state. Even so, the summer heat accelerated vine growth and fruit development, causing harvest to start earlier than usual. Bearing the characteristic Anderson Valley flavors and aromas, this Rose of Pinot Noir is bursting with ripe, bright fruit, and is a faithful expression of the site and vintage.