

Proprietor Selected
SPECIAL CUVÉE

Elizabeth Spencer

ROSÉ OF PINOT NOIR
NORTH COAST

Vintage 2008

4 Barrels

Produced & Bottled by Elizabeth Spencer Wines

APPELLATION: NAPA VALLEY
VARIETAL BLEND: 100% PINOT NOIR
PRODUCTION: 4 BARRELS
WINEMAKER: SPENCER GRAHAM

WINEMAKER'S NOTES

Deep salmon pink in color. Enticing, fruity aromatic notes of strawberry, peach, watermelon, and a delightful trace of lavender. Flavors of fresh, ripe, strawberry, Crenshaw melon, cranberry, and ruby grapefruit. The wine is light and crisp, with lively bright acidity with bold texture.

WINEMAKING

We carefully harvested select lots of Pinot Noir from our North Coast vineyards in the vinification of this crisp rosé. Cold fermented in stainless steel in order to ensure that the delicate Pinot Noir aromatics were preserved, this wine showcases the bright natural acidity characteristic of the region. After judicious but brief lees contact, we bottled the wine after four months, capturing its bright and fresh nature.

VINEYARDS

Our Pinot Noir is from a single vineyard in Suisun Valley, just east over the Vaca Range from Napa Valley. This winegrowing region is characterized by a moderate microclimate caused by the direct cooling influences of San Pablo Bay. Temperatures here allow Pinot Noir grapes to slowly and evenly develop while retaining the aromatic complexity and floral notes which are not present when grown on hotter sites.

VINTAGE

The 2008 growing season was an arduous one for most northern California grape growers. A dry winter prompted an earlier break bud than normal, leaving the developing vineyards vulnerable to the potential of damaging frosts, however our Pinot Noir vineyard was not adversely affected. The vines enjoyed a slow, even ripening period. We harvested during the second week of September once the grapes reached ripeness with an ideal balance and structure.

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