

2016 VINOUS reviews

Pinot Noir Yates Conwill Vineyard

94 points

Bright red. Highly perfumed, smoke- and mineral-accented aromas of black raspberry, cherry-cola, spicecake and savory herbs, along with a suave floral overtone. Juicy, deep and expansive on the palate, offering hefty red and blue fruit, rose pastille and spicecake flavors that become livelier with air. Delivers a suave blend of depth and litheness and finishes on a sappy red fruit liqueur note, with solid, spicy thrust, lingering floral character and sneaky tannins. (made with 70% whole clusters and 33% new French oak)

Pinot Noir Saffron Fields

93 points

Limpid ruby-red. Highly perfumed, smoke- and mineral-accented aromas of fresh dark berries and cherry pit are complicated by suave floral and incense qualities. Deep-pitched, appealingly sweet, mineral-tinged cherry and black raspberry flavors pick up a cola note with air. Finishes with subtle grip, slow-building tannins and excellent, floral-dominated persistence.

Pinot Noir Maverick Vineyard

93 points

Shimmering magenta. Dark berry preserves, cola, incense and a hint of vanilla on the deeply perfumed nose. Palate-coating blackberry, boysenberry, cherry liqueur and fruitcake flavors pick up a floral element on the back half. Shows noteworthy power, but there's elegance here as well. The cherry and floral notes carry strongly through an impressively long, youthfully tannic finish that shows sharp delineation and spicy thrust. (made with entirely destemmed fruit and raised in 75% new French oak)

Pinot Noir Wind Hill Vineyard

93 points

Bright red. Expansive red/blue fruit and Asian spice aromas show excellent clarity and pick up smoky mineral and floral nuances with air. Blends power and finesse smoothly and offers palate-staining raspberry, boysenberry, violet pastille and spicecake flavors that tighten up steadily on the back half. Shows strong intensity and repeating florality on the gently tannic, very persistent finish, which leaves a sappy red fruit liqueur note behind.

Pinot Noir "E"

92 points

Deep red. Powerful cherry, black raspberry and licorice scents are complicated by candied flowers and savory herbs. Sweet, sappy and broad on the palate, offering appealing sweet red/blue fruit, spicecake and rose pastille flavors that steadily turn spicier with aeration. Violet pastille and spicecake notes linger on a very long, supple finish, where smooth, slow-building tannins provide support and gentle grip.

Pinot Noir "O"

92 points

Shimmering magenta color. Primary dark berry and cherry aromas, with notes of Asian spices, savory herbs and violet adding complexity. Offers deeply concentrated yet lively bitter cherry and blackberry flavors that provide very good palate coverage and pick up a smoky quality as the wine opens up. Finishes spicy, pliant and long, with echoing dark berry and floral character and mounting tannins.

Pinot Noir Swine Wine

90 points

Vivid red. Intense red berry and floral aromas are complemented by subtle hints of cola and vanilla. Fresh and focused on the palate, offering intense black raspberry and cherry flavors that slowly deepen and turn sweeter on the back half. Finishes building spiciness and very good energy, leaving cherry and lavender notes behind.